

J. Roberts del.

Walker sc.

A Perspective View of Tunbridge Wells Walks.

Published & sold by T. Sprange Bookseller Tunbridge Wells.



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THE TUNBRIDGE WELLS GUIDE;

or

An Account of the ancient and preſent STATE of that PLACE,

To which is Added a particular Description of the

Towns and Villages, Remains of Antiquity,

Gentlemens Seats, Founderies, &c. &c.

within the Circumference of Sixteen Miles.



Mount Pleaſant.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS,
Printed and Sold by J. Sprange, at his Circulating Library.
Sold alſo in LONDON, *by Rivingtons Booksellers St. Pauls Ch. Yard.*
MDCCLXXXVI.


BRITISH MUSEUM



To

His Grace the

Duke of Leeds,

Marquis of Caermarthen,

EARL of DANBY,

Viscount Latimer & Dumblaine

Baron Osborne of Kiveton & Baronett;

& KNIGHT of the most noble Order of the GARTER *&c.*

This Little Work is

Dedicated

with all due deference

and Submission by

His Grace's

most obedient & obliged

humble Servant

I. Sprange.

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THE

PREFACE.

NO pains have been ſpared, nor expences regarded, to make the following work inſtructive and entertaining to the public, particularly thoſe who viſit Tunbridge Wells in the Summer Seaſon.

The Hiſtorical Account of Tunbridge Wells publiſhed ſome years ſince, was a work of merit, and judiciouſly arranged, according to the ſtate of the place at that time, and the bad condition of the roads around it, whereby a deſcription of the neighbouring Towns, Seats, and Monuments of Antiquity, (a few only excepted) where rendered unneceſſary to be deſcribed; but, the Amuſements and Regulations of the place, having undergone a thorough change ſince that time, and the roads leading every way from it, become exceedingly good, (by having been made turnpike) this little work therefore comprehends a ſhort Deſcription of every Place, Building, or Antiquity, within the circumference of Sixteen Miles.

For the perfection of which, the moſt valuable materials have been collected from authentic Re-

cords, the beſt eſteemed Authors, and the venerable Repoſitories of Ancient Manuſcripts ſearched, to preſent the publick with a copious detail of hiſtorical facts.

As the generality of perſons are apt to be ſtruck with reverential awe and pleaſing melancholy, at the gloomy proſpect of mouldering ruins, or ſtanding monuments of antiquity; and as this country, but particularly the neighbourhood of Tunbridge-Wells, affords, in a very ample manner that ſolemn pleaſure to reflecting minds; it has been judged proper to inſert a conciſe account of whatever merits the attention of the Antiquary, the Curious, and the penſive. This GUIDE *is likewiſe meant to accompany Families in their Airings. A* MAP *of the Roads comprehending the ſame diſtance around the Wells, which was publiſhed merely for the accommodation of the company ſince the alteration of the roads, and which may be purchaſed ſeparate, will be found a very uſeful appendage.*

The hurry in putting this to the preſs, may have ſubjected it to ſome few errors, and incorrectneſs of expreſſion, which it is hoped the candid public will overlook; as the publiſher flatters himſelf that the Plan of it will be found ſo calculated, as to anſwer every purpoſe intended.

THE

THE TUNBRIDGE-WELLS. DIRECTORY.

INTRODUCTION.

THERE are many traditional accounts of the firſt diſcovery of thoſe celebrated ſprings of chalybeate water, now ſo univerſally known by the name of Tunbridge-wells. And that there ſhould be ſome miraculous ſtories amongſt others, cannot be an object of wonder to thoſe who know, that the origin of places, as well as moſt of the diſcoveries that have been uſeful to mankind, were, in the dark ages of ſuperſtition and prieſtcraft, generally aſcribed to the extraordinary interpoſition of ſome avaritious ſaint, whoſe credit the monks of the time found themſelves intereſted to advance.

This not only gave riſe to the multitude of fabulous incidents that have attended almoſt every popular diſcovery, but had alſo left ſo ſtrong an impreſſion in the breaſts of our anceſtors, that even the baniſhment of popery could not totally eradicate their fondneſs for miracles, and their violent propenſity to ſwallow the abſurd tales of deſigning knaves.

This might be illuſtrated by many inſtances from hiſtory and obſervation; but, as it is a fact ſo obvious, that few will take upon them to deny it, I rather chuſe to begin immediately the relation of the ſtory I have undertaken, than needleſsly employ my time in diſproving abſurdities: it is, however; requiſite to premiſe, for the ſatisfaction of my readers, that the ſtory I have been ſpeaking of, and am now haſtening to relate, is not only better atteſted than any other on the ſame ſubject, but is alſo by much the moſt admiſſible, becauſe it is the only one unattended with miraculous, or, at leaſt, very improbable incidents.

It is true, there are no corroborating circumſtances to be produced from hiſtory, or antique

antique monuments, to aſcertain the truth of the following narrative, which is chiefly gathered from verbal information; and therefore I dare not take upon me to prove the whole to the ſatisfaction of a nice critical enquirer; but as the perſons from whom I have it are, or were, people of integrity in the common concerns of life, no ways biaſſed by intereſted views to relate falſehoods, and above all immediately deſcended from thoſe who were living at the time, and principally concerned in theſe tranſactions, I cannot entertain the leaſt doubt of the truth of it myſelf.

The firſt diſcovery of the medicinal water at Tunbridge Wells.

DUDLEY Lord North was a diſtinguiſhed nobleman in King James's court, or rather in the court of Prince Henry, his ſon, where he entered into all the gallantries of the times with a vivacity and ſpirit, which however entertaining to others, was attended with very diſagreeable conſequences to himſelf, ſince it was not only deſtructive to his fortune, but ruinous to his conſtitution alſo.

This

This young nobleman had reached his twenty-fourth year, when he fell into a lingering, conſumptive diſorder, that baffled the utmoſt efforts of medicine, and abſolutely deprived him of all capacity for enjoying thoſe pleaſures which hitherto he had too frequently indulged. In this melancholy ſituation it became neceſſary for him to live more regularly than he yet had done; and, in order the better to enable him to fall into a new plan with facility, it was judged expedient to ſeparate him from the ſcenes of pleaſure, in which he muſt unavoidably continue to be engaged, while he remained in the vicinity of the court: upon this principle, his friends and his phyſicians adviſed him to retire into the country, and try the efficacy of that laſt remedy, change of air, for the re-eſtabliſhment of his conſtitution.

In conſequence of this judicious advice, his lordſhip, in the ſpring of the year 1606, made Eridge-houſe * the place of his retreat.

* Eridge-houſe is about two miles from Tunbridge-Wells; and is mentioned in the following manner by the late Mr. Aaron hill in a letter to Mr. David Mallet;

" 'Twas an obliging wiſh you ſent me—" all the real plea-" ſures of retirement."—" That actual happineſs once, about " thirty years ago, I was on the very verge, of, in the neigh-

Eridge

Eridge was then a hunting-ſeat belonging to Lord Abergavenny, and has ever ſince continued in the poſſeſſion of his noble deſcendants, though it is now reduced to a plain farm-houſe. The building is an ancient gothic ſtructure, that appears, notwithſtanding its preſent ruinous condition to have been an agreeable retirement from the attendance of a court. The ſituation is in the higheſt degree romantic, the gardens were elegantly diſpoſed in the taſte of that age, the ſoil dry, the air pure and healthful, and no country can afford finer riding; ſo that on the whole, one can hardly conceive an idea of a place more properly adapted to reſtore health to a conſumptive habit: but then, to counterbalance theſe advantages, it was ſituated in one of the moſt ſavage parts of the county of Suſſex, and, by its diſtance from all neighbourhood, ſecluded its inhabitants from all intercourſe with the reſt of mankind.

" bourhood of the rocks and trees you correſpond with. There " is a place called Eridge-park, belonging to Lord Abergavenny " and an open, old, appropriated foreſt of the name of Water-" down, that butted on the park incloſure. There was alſo " near it then a houſe called Eridge-houſe. The park was an " aſſemblage of all nature's beauties—hills, vales, brooks, " lawns, groves, thickets, rocks, water-falls. all wildly noble " and regularly amiable."

Hill's Works, Vol. 2.

Lord

Lord North was adviſed to continue in this manſion during the whole ſummer, but the wild aſpect of the country, and the unſocial ſituation of the place, were ſo incompatible with the lively diſpoſition of this gay young courtier, that he ſoon grew weary of his retreat. And, in this diſpoſition of mind, he formed a reſolution of returning to town long before the expiration of the appointed time, unleſs he ſhould experience thoſe ſalutary benefits from the air, which his phyſicians had flattered him with the hope of receiving.

However, his lordſhip, at the repeated inſtances of his friends, and in order to give the country a fair trial, was prevailed upon to continue yet another ſix weeks at Eridge; when, finding his diſorder rather increaſed than diminiſhed, and particularly that his ſpirits were greatly lowered, he was ſatisfactorily convinced that the air alone was a very inſufficient counterpoiſe againſt the effects of the dreary ſolitude in which he was immerſed, and conſequently would go but a little way towards reſtoring his health to its priſtine ſtate: his lordſhip therefore, rejecting all ſolicitation to remain any longer here, abruptly quitted this retired manſion, and began his journey to London.

Thus

Thus was this young nobleman travelling to the great metropolis, in a more deſperate and melancholy condition than ever, being deprived of the flattering hopes that his ſanguine friends and his phyſicians had inſpired, and with no other proſpect in view but that diſmal one of a grave in the firſt bloom of manhood, without in the leaſt ſuſpecting that, in leaving this couhtry, he was flying from the remedy appointed by providence for the cure of his diſorder.

But, fortunately for him, his road lay directly through the wood in which theſe uſeful ſprings were concealed from the knowledge of mankind; ſo that, when his lordſhip came upon the ſpot, at the beginning of his journey, and while he had the day before him, he could not well paſs by without taking notice of a water, which ſeemed to claim his attention on account of the ſhining mineral ſcum that every where ſwam on its ſurface, as well as on account of the ochreous ſubſtance which ſubſided at the bottom, and marked its courſe to a neighbouring brook. His lordſhip accordingly obſerved theſe uncommon appearances, the meaning of which he could not inſtantly com-

prehend;

prehend; however, they induced him to alight from his carriage, in order to examine it more attentively; and at the ſame time he ordered one of his attendants to borrow a little veſſel from the neighbouring hovel, that he might taſte it: and the peculiar ferruginous taſte of the water not only convinced Lord North, that it held its courſe through ſome undiſcovered mine, contained in the dark cavities of the earth, but alſo gave him room to fancy, that it was endued with ſome medicinal properties, which might be beneficial to the human race.

As a drowning man, is ſaid to catch at a ſtraw, ſo his lordſhip, as ſoon as he had in imagination made this important diſcovery, began to hope it would be uſeful to himſelf; and therefore commanded his ſervants to bottle off ſome of the water, in order to conſult his phyſicians upon this ſubject, as ſoon as he could get to London.

From whence the bottles were procured upon this occaſion, it is not now very eaſy to determine; but that Lord North ſent ſome part of his retinue back to Eridge for as many as were neceſſary, is very probable: at leaſt it is

not

not likely they were to be had nearer, as at that time the whole of the ſurrounding country was rough woods, and uncultivated foreſts, without either houſe or inhabitant, except that which his Lordſhip had juſt quitted, and one little cottage very near the ſpring, in which lived the woman from whom his ſervants borrowed the wooden bowl, that his lordſhip drank out of when he taſted the water.

Be this as it will, ſome of the water was carried to London, the phyſicians were conſulted upon its virtues, and their judgment ſo perfectly coincided with Lord North's opinion, that they immediately left town to examine it on the ſpot. We have no particular account of the proceſs they uſed on this occaſion; but, as their ſole buſineſs was to diſcover the nature and properties of the water, they undoubtedly exerted all their ſkill, and tried all the experiments the then infant ſtate of chemiſtry would admit of, to anſwer this important end: However, though we are unacquainted with the method they purſued, we are aſſured the reſult of their enquiries proved ſo favourable to this hitherto neglected ſpring, that they haſted back again to publiſh its valuable qualities,

and to give their noble patient ſufficient encouragement to try its efficacy, on the return of the vernal ſeaſon.

Accordingly, as ſoon as warm weather came on, and the roads were dry enough to render a journey practicable, Lord North returned to Eridge to add the power of the water to the purity of the air, and to try how far their united force would contribute to reſtore ſtrength and vigour to his ſhattered conſtitution. And, notwithſtanding the low condition to which he was by this time reduced, the ſucceſs he met with more than anſwered his moſt ſanguine expectations, inſomuch that, after about three months continuance in this * now delightful country, he returned to town ſo perfectly freed from all his complaints, that we cannot find he ever afterwards experienced the leaſt return of his diſorder, though we are aſſured he again gave himſelf up to all the gallantries of the age, and lived in the full indulgence of every pleaſure, till after the death of the accompliſhed prince Henry, when he † retired from the pedantic court of James to his country ſeat at Catlidge in

* Health makes the gloomy face of nature gay,
Gives beauty to the ſun, and luſtre to the day.

† Vide North's Lives---and Collins's Peerage.

in Cambridgeſhire, where he lived more honourably upon the remains of his fortune, than ever he had done before, and died on the 16th of January, 1666, at the advanced age of 85.

It is from this recovery of an eminent nobleman from the verge of the grave, that we muſt date all the honours to which Tunbridge-wells has riſen. And, if we trace its ſtory to the head, it will appear, that only ſo trifling an incident, as the colour of the ground about the water of a wild unuſeful wood, has filled the deſert with inhabitants, and made plenty ſmile over the barren heath!

The ſtate of the place during the firſt thirty years after the firſt diſcovery of the water.

LORD NORTH, immediately on this almoſt miraculous re-eſtabliſhment of his health, by repairing to the court of his Royal Maſter, as was before obſerved, confirmed the rumour of his having diſcovered theſe valuable ſprings of medicinal water; of the excellency of which, he was himſelf an inconteſtable evidence to all that had known him in his paſt languiſhing and deplorable condition, when his whole ſyſtem bore the appearance of an univerſal decay, and nature itſelf ſeemed haſtening to its period.

And, as this water had its riſe on the borders of Lord Abergavenny's eſtate, this very ſufficient proof of its merit induced that nobleman to intereſt himſelf in its preſervation, and with this view, to make the place as convenient as the nature of the country would admit of, to the many invalids that, it was reaſonably conjectured, would fly to it for a refuge from their various diſorders.

Lord Abergavenny was ſo much in earneſt in this important undertaking, that he came to

Eridge

Eridge on purpoſe to proſecute it with vigour; and, having obtained leave of Mr. Weller of Tunbridge, who was at that time Lord of the Manor, his Lordſhip ordered the ground about the ſprings to be cleared from the ſurrounding rubbiſh, and ſent for an eminent naturaliſt from London, with whoſe aſſiſtance he diſtinguiſhed the two principal of ſeven ſeveral ſprings, for ſo many were at firſt diſcovered; and over theſe his Lordſhip ordered wells to be ſunk, a ſtone pavement to be laid round, and the whole to be incloſed with wooden rails in a triangular form.

From henceforth this excellent water became a ſubject of public diſcourſe, and its vaſt efficacy, in removing many diſorders to which the human body is incident, was ſufficiently evidenced by the recovery of many who ventured on the trial; but the place itſelf continued ſeveral years in the ſame deſolate condition with only a very few inconſiderable improvements, ſuch as cutting down ſome of the wood, clearing off thoſe buſhes that were troubleſome to the water-drinkers, and making the road from Tunbridge-town more convenient than when it was leſs frequented.

This

This ſlow progreſs in embelliſhing the country was probably occaſioned by the uncertainty of its proving beneficial to the owners, as well as to the manners of the age, and the careleſsneſs of thoſe who attended merely for the relief that the waters afforded.

The owners, indeed, at that time, could have but little room to imagine that Tunbridge-Wells would ever become ſo eminent among the votaries of pleaſure as it now is. London had abſolutely engroſſed all the faſhionable amuſements to herſelf; gaming, intrigue, and every other diverſion invented to kill time, and gratify the reſtleſs paſſions of man, were confined to her precincts alone, and only exiſted during the winter months. The ſummer was a ſeaſon of languor and diſcontent. The people of faſhion had no agreeable retreats in which they could be together, and purſue thoſe amuſements which had employed them in the winter. The healthy flew to their country-ſeats, and paſſed their time in a wearifome ſolitude, amidſt a company whoſe ſtation and manners were incompatible with their own. The ſick, that reſorted to the mineral waters of Tunbridge, had only the recovery of health in view, and propoſed to themſelves

ſelves no other pleaſures but ſuch as were intirely rural. The company, thus aſſembled, formed no general ſociety. The amuſements of the gentry were few, confined, and ſelfiſh. The great brought with them all the haughtineſs of nobility, and knew not how to let themſelves down with grace. In ſhort, delicacy, politeneſs, and elegant pleaſures, were then but juſt budding forth from amidſt the rubbiſh of Gothic barbariſm, and, till theſe were grown to ſuch a height as to be diſcernible amongſt us, Tunbridge-Wells was not eſteemed a place of pleaſure, in which the people of faſhion might depend upon being agreeably amuſed.

During this period, Tunbridge-Town was the neareſt place where any lodgings could be procured, and therefore was generally pretty much crouded in the water drinking ſeaſon, which uſually began in May and continued to October.

But nothing very remarkable happened in this country from the firſt diſcovery of its ſprings, till the arrival of queen Henrietta Maria, wife of Charles I. who was ſent here by her phyſicians, for the re-eſtabliſhment of her health, after the birth of prince Charles, which happened on the 29th of May, 1630.

It

It is ſaid of this young queen, who was the firſt of the royal family that ever honoured Tunbridge-Wells with their preſence, that, at this time, ſhe had perſonal charms which every day grew more lovely in the eyes of her huſband; and ſhe ſo well underſtood their proper uſe, as, after the death of Buckingham, entirely to captivate his heart; but, being a foreigner, and, upon her firſt arrival in England, ſlighted as ſhe imagined, by the king, and really ill-treated by the favourite, ſhe did not entertain any very advantageous prepoſſeſſions for the court; and, afterwards, the diſputes between Charles and his parliament gave her ſtill leſs room to love the people. This unhappy prejudice againſt the whole nation was ſufficient to awaken the ſpirit of a Medicis, and perhaps led her into ſome errors; it certainly was the foundation of much uneaſineſs to her during the future part of her life, and the probable cauſe of her diſreliſh for this kingdom, even after the reſtoration. However, notwithſtanding this, ſhe ever behaved with proper civility to all, and to ſome ſhe was moſt obligingly kind. In the days of her proſperity ſhe was fond of maſks and dancing, and in this place, which, on account of its rural aſpect, and truly romantic appearance, was well calculated for the purpoſe,

ſome

ſome were performed before her, that were extremely ingenious, as well as magnificent.

The queen continued about ſix weeks at the Wells, and dwelt in tents the whole time. Her camp was pitched upon Biſhop's-down common, and certainly diffuſed a ſplendor and magnificence over this wild country, to which it had hitherto been an abſolute ſtranger; but, except the honour of her preſence, and the clearing of the common to make room for her tents, the place received no benefit from her majeſty's ſucceſsful reſidence in it.

The curioſity of this gay young queen induced her one day to walk from the Well a little way into the county of Suſſex, where ſhe wandered about till, at length growing weary, ſhe ſat down on a bank beneath the ſhade of a ſpreading birch for refreſhment; and, when ſhe had ſufficiently reſted herſelf, ſhe aroſe, and ordered a ſtone to be placed there, as a memorial of her travels in that county, not then in the leaſt preſaging how many counties ſhe was in a few years afterwards deſtined to travel through. A complimentary latin inſcription was engraved on this ſtone by one of

her majeſty's attendants; but Oliver's rude partizans prevented its reaching poſterity.—Such generally are the effects of licentious rebellion, which is at all times deſtructive of the arts, and attended with ruin and confuſion.

The Queen's-ſtone, an alehouſe in the road to Frant, is built where this monument was placed, and the ſign *, which hung there till within theſe few years, was drawn from a view of the ſtone itſelf; but the inſcription is no where preſerved.

It is in remembrance of this queen, that Dr. Rowzee, in his little valuable treatiſe on this water, calls the place "Queen Mary's Wells;" but this name was never very generally accepted, and probably becauſe it was the laſt given to it. At this diſtance of time it is a difficult matter to aſcertain what name the place was at firſt diſtinguiſhed by; but, as "Kil-burne," in his "Survey of Kent," calls it "Frant Wells," we may with ſome ſort of aſſurance conjecture that this was the name originally given to the place by Lord Abergavenny;

* It is now the ſign of the Black Dog.

venny; and this conjecture muſt receive great additional ſtrength from conſidering, that his lordſhip's eſtate, in that neighbourhood, is ſituated in the pariſh of Frant.

But theſe names are now intirely loſt; and "Tunbridge-Wells" is univerſally adopted in their ſtead. It will be difficult to account for this more judiciouſly than Dr. Rowzee has already done, in his before-mentioned neglected treatiſe—"They have their name, ſays he, "from this town, as being the neareſt town in "Kent to them"—and, it may be added, as being the place where the company uſually reſided, when they firſt began to drink the water medicinally.

It ſeems reaſonable to imagine, as the ſprings riſe in "Speldhurſt-pariſh," no name would have more readily occurred, or been more juſtly applied, than that of "Speld-"hurſt-Wells;" but, as every thing of this kind depends upon capricious circumſtances, and is in itſelf of very little real importance, any attempt to change the name, which the place has ſo long been known by, and which is now ſo univerſally and firmly eſtabliſhed by time

and

and cuſtom, cannot be more ineffectual than it would be ridiculous.

THE PROGRESS OF THE BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS AT TUNBRIDGE-WELLS TO THE PRESENT TIME.

THIRTY years after the diſcovery of the medicinal ſprings at Tunbridge-Wells, notwithſtanding the acknowledged uſefulneſs of the water, the vaſt reſort of company that every ſeaſon attended to partake of its benefits, and the great inconvenience of lodgings at the diſtance of five miles from the ſpot, the country continued in the ſame rough, wild, uncultivated ſtate that it was left in by Lord Abergavenny; but, as a journey to Tunbridge became at length a ſcheme of pleaſure, and faſhion drew the young and the gay, as well as the diſeaſed and the old, the happy period arrived in which it could not longer remain in ſo deſolate a condition.

The firſt buildings erected in the vicinity of the ſprings were two little houſes, or rather cottages, one for the accommodation of the ladies

ladies*, and the other for the gentlemen †. These buildings were so essentially necessary to the convenience of the company, that it is amazing they were so long delayed; nothing surely can paint in stronger colours the carelessness of the water-drinkers, and the want of foresight in the country people than this neglect.

The latter of these two houses, which in the present age might perhaps be called a coffee-house, was then named the Pipe-office, because there the gentlemen usually met to converse over a pipe, and a dish of coffee, when they had drank their proper quantity of water.

It was customary for them to pay half-a-crown subscription to this house, for the use of pipes, the privilege of reading the news-papers, and other little conveniencies of the same kind, instead of which the present coffee-house subscription is five shillings; but, thro' the prevalence of ever-varying fashion, pens, ink, and paper, are now substituted instead of the discarded pipe.

In

* Where Mrs. Thomas Latter's garden now is.

† Mr. Joseph Fry, Cabinet-maker, opposite the Library.

In two years more, a green bank, now paved and called the "Upper Walk," was raiſed and levelled, and a double row of trees was planted on its borders to defend the company from the violence of the meridian ſun. Under theſe trees the tradeſmen uſually ſtood to diſpoſe of their goods in the hours of water-drinking, which was the only time they had to ſell their different ſorts of merchandize in, becauſe the company lodged at too great a diſtance to appear amongſt them above once a day.

The next year they began to build a few houſes for the accommodation of the company at Southborough ‡ and at Ruſthall §.

Theſe

‡ Southborough is about two miles and a half from the Wells, and there are ſtill remaining two or three tolerable houſes at that place; though in general they are gone to decay, and have been bought off and rebuilt at Tunbridge-town and Tunbridge-Wells. At the time when parties raged very high, previous to the grand rebellion, and many years afterwards, the royaliſts lodged at this place, and the round-heads at Ruſthall: each party thus chuſing to be as far divided from each other in their dwellings as they were in the diſpoſition of their minds.

§ Ruſthall is about one mile from the Wells, and is ſo called from its ancient proprietors, whoſe names were Ruſt, one of

Theſe buildings were ſmall and few at firſt, rather ſuited to the circumſtances and apprehenſions of the builders, than to the company they were intended for; but the water was now in ſuch high reputation, that people gladly put up with any inconveniences on its account; and therefore, when theſe new houſes were full, would pay an extravagant price for cottages, huts, or any place to ſcreen them from the weather, rather than return home without partaking of the benefits thereof.

The elegant poet Waller has immortalized theſe ſprings, and ſufficiently evidenced their celebrity about this time, by alluding to their ſalutary properties in a charming little poem addreſſed to his Sachariſſa.

Complaining of the cruel indifference of this haughty beauty, the poet exclaims, in imita-

whom was mayor of Feverſham in the time of King Henry ſixth. The Preſbyterians wanted to build them a conventicle at this place, when it was in the moſt flouriſhing ſtate; but though it was chiefly ſupported by that ſect, the landlord refuſed to ſell them a foot of land for that purpoſe, even at the moſt extravagant price; ſo inveterate was the hatred that Churchmen then bore to Preſbyterians.

imitation of Patroclus * in the ſixteenth Iliad, that "ſhe could not be a Sidney, nor ſpring from her mother;" and then paſſionately goes on;

"- - - - - - to no human ſtock
"We owe this fierce unkindneſs; but the rock,
"That cloven rock produc'd thee, by whoſe ſide
"Nature, to recompence the fatal pride
"Of ſuch ſtern beauty, plac'd thoſe healing ſprings:
"Which not more help, than that deſtruction brings."

The quantity of water, uſually drank in this age, certainly deſerves our notice; it is indeed ſo truly amazing and incredible, that I could not venture to mention it on any traditional reports: but, as Dr. Rowzee, who lived at the time, and was himſelf an eye-witneſs of the fact, has given the detail in a book † which he wrote and publiſhed on the ſpot, it cannot very well be diſputed—take it then in his own words—

"Now

* O man unpitying! if of man thy race;
But ſure thou ſpring'ſt not from a ſoft embrace,
Nor ever am'rous hero gave thee birth,
Nor ever tender goddeſs brought thee forth.
Some rugged rocks hard entrails caus'd thy form,
And raging ſeas produc'd thee in a ſtorm,
A ſoul well ſuiting that tempeſtuous kind,
So rough thy manners, ſo untam'd thy mind.

† Entitled "The Queen's-Wells, &c. by Lodowick, Rowzee, M. D." Licened in 1637, but not publiſhed till 1671.

" Now for the whole quantity of water to " be taken in a morning, you ſhall ſee ſome " that riſe very high, even to three hundred * " ounces, according to Neſtor's years; yea, and " ſome a greater quantity. And it is a thing that " will make the very women there filling their " glaſſes to laugh, to ſee ſome patients ſent " thither by ignorant phyſicians, and appoint- " ed to take ten or twelve ounces of water, and " ariſe perhaps to twenty or thirty † ounces. " But this may be a rule for a body of com- " petent years and ſtrength, to begin at thirty ‡, " forty or fifty ounces, and to ariſe by de- " grees, increaſing their quantity every day, " to an hundred ‖, an hundred and fifty, or " two hundred ounces, more or leſs, as they " ſhall be able; and ſo again to decline and " decreaſe by degrees, ending where they be- " gan."

The trouble and confuſion in which the whole kingdom was involved, during the ten

 follow-

* Eighteen pints three gills.

† About one pint three quarters.

‡ From almoſt two pints to ſomething more than three pints.

‖ From ſix pints and a half to twelve pints and a quarter.

following years, ſufficiently accounts for the total neglect of any improvements in this place, throughout the whole of that bloody period; but when the nation became a little ſettled, and began to taſte the ſweets of returning peace, we find Tunbridge-Wells as much in vogue as before.

In a ſhort time after this, they had an aſſembly-room, a bowling green, and other places appropriated to public diverſions at Ruſthall; and at Southborough, too, they had a bowling green, a coffee-houſe, and a great number of good houſes for lodgings. But, notwithſtanding theſe improvements, the place ſtill continued in an infant ſtate. Its advantages were certainly much increaſed; but many things were wanting to make it convenient either to the company, or the inhabitants, and many more to compleat it for a place of public entertainment. The houſes were too far diſtant from the ſprings, and in bad weather the water was uſeleſs, becauſe there was no place of ſhelter to ſcreen the drinkers from its violence, while practiſing their neceſſary exerciſe. In this ſituation of things, if a ſudden ſhower happened to fall in the hours of attendance upon

upon the well, it is eaſy to imagine the hurry and confuſion it muſt occaſion amongſt the company expoſed to it.

The poor tradeſmen too had their full ſhare of theſe diſtreſſes, and frequently muſt have had their goods greatly damaged, when accidents of this kind were not timely foreſeen, and effectually guarded againſt.—But now we turn to better times.—

In the year 1664, the old rails, placed round the Wells by Lord Abergavenny, were diſplaced, and a ſtrong ſtone wall built round them, inſtead of this wooden one. This work was executed at the expence of Lord Muſkerry, ſon to the ſecond Earl of Clancarty, a brave young nobleman, who loſt his life, the year after, fighting againſt the Dutch in Southwold-bay *. He was then lord of the manor, and his

 arms

* This naval engagement, ſo glorious to the Engliſh nation, was fought on the 3d of June, 1665. The Engliſh fleet, conſiſting of an hundred and fourteen ſhips, and twenty-two thouſand men, was commanded by the Duke of York, Prince Rupert, and the Earl of Sandwich; and the Dutch, of nearly equal force, by the brave and experienced Admiral Obdam. At firſt things went very equally on both ſides; but, about noon, Lord Sandwich

arms * were placed in the arch of the gateway leading to the ſprings. This young nobleman renewed the ſtone pavement within the wall, placed a handſome baſon over the main ſpring.

by an excellent manœuvre, fell into the center of the adverſe fleet and, dividing them, began that confuſion which ſoon ended in their total defeat. The Dutch loſt on this occaſion at leaſt thirty ſhips, and ſix thouſand men: whereas the Engliſh, according to the beſt accounts, loſt only one ſhip and about five hundred men.

Tke Duke of York behaved with remarkable bravery during the whole action. He continued ſome hours in the thickeſt of the fire, and had ſeveral perſons of diſtinction killed on board his own ſhip, particularly Lord Falmouth, the King's unworthy favourite; the honourable Mr. Boyle, youngeſt ſon to the Earl of Burlington, and Lord Muſkerry, "a young no-"bleman (ſays Clarendon *) of extraordinary courage and "expectation; who had been colonel of a regiment of foot "in Flanders, where he had done the King ſome eminent ſer-"vice, and had the general eſtimation of an excellent officer." Theſe three were all killed with one ſhot, ſo near to his royal highneſs, that his hand was wounded with one of their ſkulls and he was covered over with their blood and brains. * Vide Clarendon's Life, pag. 266, and for further particulars of this eminent young nobleman, who appears to have been equally beloved by his ſovereign, his ſoldiers, and his tenants, ſee Clarendon's Hiſtory, vol. 3d, pages 168, and 475—to 477.

* The arms were pulled down in the great law-ſuit between the lord and tenants of the manor, which commenced about the year 1726: and the arch itſelf was taken down when the Wells were repaired in the year 1743, or 1744. The arms are now placed over the door at the back part of the aſſembly-room on the Walks.

for the better reception of the water, and raiſed a convenient hall to ſhelter the dippers from the weather in the hours of attendance upon the company; from which there is alſo a projection extended to preſerve the well from any mixture with rain water.

It is very probable that Lord Muſkerry thus particularly intereſted himſelf in adorning the place this ſeaſon, in compliment to his royal miſtreſs Queen Katharine, who was ſent to Tunbridge-Wells for her recovery from the effects of a dangerous fever, which in the preceding winter had reduced her to the verge of the grave.

Her majeſty was very ſucceſsful in the uſe of the water, which greatly raiſed its reputation, and conſequently encouraged the inhabitants to ſecond the generous efforts of their landlord, and to exert their utmoſt endeavours to render this neglected place both beautiful and convenient. And probably they would have made a much quicker progreſs in this deſign than they did, if Lord Muſkerry had been ſpared a few years longer; for this amiable young nobleman was not only perfectly beloved

loved by his tenants, but ſeemed inclined to carry his improvements ſo far, as to leave but little for his ſucceſſors to do after him. He was indeed remarkably fond of the place, and while he lived gave the greateſt encouragement to every public work; and though his death prevented the farther proſecution of his generous intentions, yet they were not wholly without effect, for his conduct had inſpired ſuch a ſpirit in the inhabitants, that from this period, houſes began to riſe in the woods, and gardens to overſpread the foreſt. In ſhort the paſſion for building was raiſed, and prevailed with increaſing ardour in this country through a long ſeries of ſucceeding years.

In this ſpace the aſſembly-room * was brought home from Ruſthall to Mount-Ephraim, on which a bowling-green † was incloſed, a tavern ‡ was opened, and many lodging houſes were erected for the uſe of the company; but

* This aſſembly-room was in the houſe, now called Mount Ephraim Houſe.

† The bowling green is now a field on the north ſide of this houſe.

‡ This tavern became afterwards a lodging houſe, till purchaſed by Mrs. Johnſon, whoſe reſidence it now is.

but the triumph of this hill was ſhort, Mount-Sion * became a formidable rival, and quickly eclipſed its growing ſplendor; for when the ball-room, the bowling-green, and the lodging houſes aroſe ſo near the ſpring, a leſs convenient diſtance was generally avoided.

Thus in the courſe of a few years we find Tunbridge forſaken; Southborough and Ruſthall raiſed and ruined; Mount-Ephraim drooping; and Mount-Sion in the full bloom of proſperity; this laſt indeed not only rivalled, but deſpoiled her predeceſſors, and triumphantly transferred their ornaments to herſelf; for many houſes were brought from Southborough, Ruſthall, and Mount-Ephraim, to be rebuilt on Mount-Sion; and ſome, whole and entire as they were, were wheeled † on ſledges to be fixed in this new ſeat of favour.

In

* It was owing to the diſputes between the Lord of the Manor and the tenants, that this hill was preferred to Biſhop's Down Common. MSS. Mathew Benge.

† Camfield's ſhop adjoining to the chapel, was in this manner brought down from Mount-Ephraim, with the band of muſic playing in it, and a jovial company drinking ſucceſs to the purchaſer.

In this period, the place called the Fiſh-ponds was opened for the amuſement of the public; and as it was laid out in a pretty rural taſte, and every way calculated for the entertainment of genteel company, while its managers continued carefully to maintain decency and ſtrict decorum in its precincts, it was juſtly eſteemed one of the principal ſcenes of diverſion at Tunbridge: but when the vigilance of the managers was dropped, low company admitted, and indecencies encouraged, it ſoon became diſreputable for any of the ladies to be ſeen there; which as a natural conſequence, very qnickly reduced it to the ruinous condition in which it now remains.

In the year 1670, the Duke of York, his dutcheſs, and his two daughters, the princeſſes Mary and Anne, were at Tunbridge-Wells; and as his royal highneſs was remarkably pleaſed with the High-rocks, which he frequently viſited, this occaſioned the building of a little houſe there, and from that time it has been faſhionable to make entertainments amidſt thoſe ſtupendous ruins of nature; which ever have been, and ever muſt be reckoned amongſt the principal curioſities of the place.

Theſe

Theſe rocks are about a mile and a half from the Wells, and conſiſt of a great number of rude eminencies adjoining to each other, ſeveral of which are above ſeventy feet high *. At many places there are ſurprizing cliffs and chaſms that lead quite through the midſt of them by narrow gloomy paſſages; which, together with their being ſituated among woods and foreſt, by the ſide of a gently murmuring ſtream, makes them afford one of the moſt romantic retired ſcenes in nature.

The curious philoſophic enquirers who love to indulge themſelves in conjecture, have imagined that the vale in which theſe rocks are ſituated was once the bed of a prodigious river, a conjecture which is conſiderably ſtrengthened by the appearance of the whole country in general, and in particular is ſuppoſed to be almoſt demonſtrable from ſome marks on the rocks themſelves, which are ſaid to be evident proofs of their having been the habitation of a particular ſpecies of fiſh.

When this river exiſted, if it ever did exiſt, none will venture to hazard even a conjecture;

* The mean height of theſe rocks is about forty feet. Bowra.

but all are united in opinion that it muſt be loſt by ſome violent concuſſion of nature: and, that the country has greatly ſuffered by an earthquake, in ſome former period, appears to be highly probable from the wonderful manner in which many of the rocks are thrown over each other, as well as from the cliffs and chaſms already mentioned; but after all it is hard to ſay, whether this whole phænomenon might not be produced by that general flood which changed the face of nature all over the globe.

But to return to our narrative, on the foreſt a little beyond the Rocks, a ſpring of water was diſcovered, which was railed in and called Adam's-Well. To what particular uſe this ſpring was then applied we have no real account. At preſent it is noted for curing all cutaneous ſcorbutic diſorders, and was lately purchaſed, with ſome lands contiguous, by Mr. Pinchbeck, formerly maſter of one of the aſſembly-rooms, at Tunbridge-Wells, and a Bath erected by him there, for the benefit of the public, who owe great thanks to him.

The

The annual increaſe of company reſorting to the Wells, encouraged the Lord of the manor about this time to think of improving his eſtate, by erecting ſhops and houſes on and near the walks; he therefore entered into an agreement with his tenants, and hired the herbage of the manor on a fifty years leaſe, at ten ſhillings per annum each tenant, and then began to build upon the green bank, and in every convenient ſituation near the ſprings.

And as Tunbridge-Wells was now become a populous and flouriſhing village, both with reſpect to its ſettled inhabitants, and the company that annually reſorted to it for health or pleaſure, the piety of our anceſtors made them think it neceſſary to build an houſe to the honour of God, leſt the diſtance from every church, together with the various amuſements, and continual diſſipations of a public place, ſhould entirely ſuſpend the attention due to religious duties.

For this purpoſe a ſubſcription was opened, in the year 1676, to raiſe a fund for building a chapel; which ſubſcription was continued, without intermiſſion, till 1684, when it amounted to the ſum of 1385l. This was judg-

ed ſufficient to defray the expences of the work, and a chapel * was accordingly built on ground given for that purpoſe by lady Purbeck of Somerhill. This chapel was ſoon found by experience to be too ſmall for the company, and therefore it was afterwards enlarged, and beautified, by a ſecond ſubſcription, begun in the year 1688, and cloſed in 1696, the ſum of which amounted to 900l.

In this chapel divine ſervice is performed every day during the ſummer ſeaſon, and three times a week in the winter; and the clergyman has no other endowment than what ariſes by the voluntary ſubſcription of the company that frequent the place, and the inhabitants who ſubſcribe for the Winter's duty. This ſubſcription, at a medium, amounts to about 200l. per annum.

Adjoining to the chapel is a charity ſchool, for fifty or more poor boys and girls, who are there

* This chapel is dedicated to King Charles the martyr! Vide Willis's Survey, vol. 3. App. p. 18.

† There are two tables of the names of theſe ſubſcribers in the veſtry-room of the chapel, a copy of which the author was adviſed by ſome gentlemen to inſert; but finding upon enquiry that the number of names amounted to 2600, he was fearful of ſwelling the book too much.

there inſtructed in the uſeful, not to ſay neceſſary, articles of reading, writing, and common arithmetic, by the clerk for the time being. This ſchool is ſupported by a contribution collected at the chapel doors, at two different times, in the ſeaſon, when a charity ſermon is preached each time, on the occaſion.

From this ſchool, every other year, one boy is clothed, and apprenticed to ſome ſeafaring trade, by the beneſaction of William Strong, Eſq; who by his laſt will, dated Auguſt, 1713, gave the annual rents of two little farms to this ſchool, and the great ſchool at Tunbridge, thus every year, alternately, to clothe and apprentice one ſcholar. It is alſo farther ordered by the will, that the ſurplus, if at any time any remains, ſhall be lent, upon good ſecurity, to either of the boys for five years without intereſt.—Mrs. Mary Coulter by will, dated May, 1775, left 100l. in charity to the ſaid ſchool.

In 1687 a fire broke out in the houſe, now called the Flat-houſe, at the bottom of the Walk, by which the life of one poor child was loſt, and all the ſhops, and other buildings, ſo lately

ately erected on the green bank, were entirely conſumed. But this accident, however terrible in itſelf, was upon the whole not unſerviceable to the place, becauſe, like ancient Rome *, if ſmall things may be compared with the greateſt, it roſe more glorious from its aſhes, the buildings being afterwards more regularly planned, and better contrived, both for the convenience of the inhabitants, and the ornament of the walks; upon which, ſince this accident, an aſſembly-room, coffee-houſe, ſhops and dwelling-houſes have been erected in one continued line, and a convenient portico placed in front, and carried on from the upper end of the parade, quite to the bottom; a few ſteps from which is the ſpring. The length of the Walk, from the upper-end to the ſteps going off at the bottom, leading to the ſpring, is an hundred and ſeventy-five yards.

In the ever memorable year 1688. Princeſs Anne of Denmark was at Tunbridge-Wells, and

* "Rome, properly ſpeaking, was at firſt but a ſorry village, whereof even the principal inhabitants followed their own ploughs; and until it was rebuilt after the burning of it by the Gauls, did not deſerve the name of a city. Such were the beginnings of the capital of the world!"

Hooke's Rom. Hiſt. vol. 1. p. 22.

and ſent her Gentleman Waiter, Colonel Sands, from thence to enquire after the health of the new-born ſuppoſed Prince of Wales; at which viſit of the Colonel's ſome remarkable circumſtances * are ſaid to have happened, which, if the ſtory may be depended upon, muſt greatly ſtrengthen the opinion that this pretended prince was an impoſition on the Britiſh nation.

This Princeſs ſeveral ſeaſons ſucceſſively honoured the place with her preſence, and was a great benefactreſs to it. She gave the baſon to the ſpring called the "Queen's-Well" which is ſituated on the left hand as you enter the area, and diſtinguiſhed from the other by its iron bars.

In 1698, her Royal Highneſs brought her ſon the young Duke of Gloſter, with her to the Wells, and was made ſenſible of the utility of paving the Walks by a fall which he got, in his play with other children, juſt after ſome rain had increaſed the natural ſlipperineſs of the ſoil ſurrounding the ſprings: and at her going away ſhe left money for this purpoſe in the hands of one of the principal inhabitants, with

* Tindal's Rapin, vol. II. p. 767.

with an injunction to get the work completed againſt the enſuing ſummer; but he, vainly flattering himſelf the princeſs would viſit the place no more, knaviſhly delayed the work ſo long that her Royal Highneſs returned to the Wells before any progreſs was made in it. This neglect very much diſguſted the Princeſs, who thereupon inſtantly quitted the place, and never deigned to enter it again; but, before ſhe went, ſhe took effectual methods to have the pavement carried on with proper diligence, by deputing a ſuperintendent, who never ſuffered the work to be intermitted till it was intirely finiſhed.

On the acceſſion of this Princeſs to the throne of Great-Britain, the inhabitants of Tunbridge-Wells, deſirous of tranſmitting to poſterity ſome teſtimony of the ſenſe they retained of the many favours conferred upon them by her Majeſty, planted the Queen's-grove" on the common, for a growing monument of gratitude to their royal and generous benefactreſs,

In 1708, the Cold-bath at Ruſthall was built by Mr. James Long at a very conſiderable expence.

expence. This bath is eſteemed equal to any in the kingdom, being moſt plentifully ſupplied with the fineſt rock water from the neighbouring hills. The bath was at firſt adorned with amuſing water-works, and had a handſome and convenient houſe over it, in every room of which was ſomething curious, calculated to divert and ſurpriſe the company. The ground and gardens belonging to the bath were elegantly laid out, and embelliſhed with fountains, and other ornaments ſuitable to the place; in ſhort, the whole was moſt completely diſpoſed for a ſcene of amuſement. But all this is now gone to decay through the want of management, and the neglect of the proprietors, who have ſuffered the houſe to fall, and the gardens to lie waſte and wild; but the bath itſelf is well preſerved, and lately a plain unornamented building has been raiſed over it, which, though it retains none of the beauties of the former elegant ſtructure, is perhaps full as uſeful as the old one.

Within theſe very few years, another Cold-bath has been erected, about a furlong from the walks, which, on account of its nearneſs to the Wells, and its being neatly fitted up in

a pretty retired ſituation, will probably continue in uſe, though it certainly cannot in any reſpect be compared to the ancient bath.

About the year 1726, the Lord of the Manor's building leaſe expired, and as the tenants juſtly imagined they had a right to ſome compenſation for the loſs of the herbage that was covered by his houſes, they claimed a ſhare in the buildings. This occaſioned a tedious law-ſuit between the lord and the tenants, which, after a prodigious expence, was finally determined in favour of the latter, who were adjudged to have a juſt claim to a third part of the buildings, then erected on the eſtate, for their rights of herbage: whereupon all the ſhops and houſes on this eſtate were divided into three equal lots, of which the tenants were to draw one, and the other two were to remain with the Lord; and, luckily for the tenants, they happened to draw the middle lot, which included the aſſembly-room on the walk, and has turned out the beſt of the three. After this the landlord and tenants entered into a long agreement, to reſtrain and prevent the increaſe of buildings on the manor, which was confirmed and eſtabliſhed by an act

of

of parliament, that paſſed the royal aſſent on the 29th of April, 1740.

His Royal Highneſs Frederick, the late Prince of Wales, and her Royal Highneſs his conſort, were at Tunbridge-Wells in 1739.

Her Royal Highneſs the Princeſs Amelia has frequently honoured the place with her preſence, and, particularly, was there in 1762, when his Royal Highneſs William Duke of Cumberland was alſo there.

Their Royal Highneſſes, the Dukes of York and Gloceſter, were at Tunbridge-Wells about the middle of September, 1765. On their arrival they were welcomed by a triple diſcharge of eighteen pieces of cannon, and in the evening the walks were moſt ſplendidly illuminated, upon which occaſions they always make a magnificent appearance.

Their Royal Highneſſes continued there two nights, viewed the High-rocks and other beautiful environs of the Wells, entered, with that noble affability ſo peculiar to their illuſtrious family, into all the amuſements of the place,

and, notwithſtanding the ſeaſon's being ſo far declined, ſeemed at their departure to be much pleaſed with their expedition, and the loyal reception they met with.

The place itſelf is now in a very flouriſhing ſtate, with a great number of good houſes for lodgings, and all neceſſary accommodations for company; its cuſtoms are ſettled, its pleaſures regulated, its markets and all other conveniencies fixed, and the whole very properly adapted to the nature of a place, which is at once deſigned to give health and pleaſure to all its viſitants.

Of the AIR *of* TUNBRIDGE-WELLS.

SOME account of the air of Tunbridge-Wells will certainly be eſteemed neceſſary to render this work tolerably complete, becauſe as a public place reſorted to by invalids for the recovery and re-eſtabliſhment of health, nothing can be of greater importance than a knowledge thereof.

Air is undoubtedly ſuch a neceſſary inſtrument of life, that without it we cannot ſubſiſt for more than a few moments; and it is very obvious to every reflecting mind, that, where it is impregnated with undue mixtures, it muſt of courſe produce, or aggravate diſeaſes: from whence it follows that it is a duty highly incumbent on all who ſtudy the preſervation of that health they now enjoy, and ſtill more ſo upon thoſe who would recover that which is loſt, to make choice of ſuch a ſituation as affords the freeſt and moſt equable air, where it is leaſt impregnated with the noxious effluvia of ſubterraneous exhalations, or loaded with the vapours continually ariſing from a humid ſoil: and where, on the other hand, it is not

ſo

ſo dry and attractive as too far to imbibe the attenuating lymph exhaled from the blood; but rather, where the nature of the ſoil, the happy ſituation of the place, and the ſurer teſt of experience, all unitedly evidence its wholeſomeneſs.

And in all theſe reſpects impartially ſpeaking, the air of Tunbridge-Wells moſt certainly excels. The country is not ſo low and moiſt as to be ſubject to thick fogs, or any marks of a vaporous air; neither is it raiſed to ſuch an exalted height as to have its atmoſphere too much rarified, or be too much expoſed to the bleak northern or eaſtern winds; from the latter eſpecially it is well defended by a long range of high hills. The ſoil of the country in general is tolerably fruitful, and even the moſt barren parts of it are eaſily cultivated, which evidences that the air, though naturally dry, is not too ſharp and rigid for the human conſtitution; and the multitude of ſweet herbs, as wild thyme, &c. with which the whole country is overſpread, affords a ſolid proof of its ſweetneſs and purity.

On the little hills of Mount Ephraim and Mount-Sion, it is remarkable that a gentle fragrant breeze unceasingly prevails, through all the summer months; which, in the hottest weather, generally keeps them mild and temperate. And it is acknowledged by every author who has occasionally mentioned the place, as well as by those who have professedly wrote on the subject, that this air is extremely benign, pure and wholesome.

And in all probability the air of Tunbridge-Wells has the additional advantage of being, in some degree, impregnated with the effluvia of those healthful ingredients with which the water so eminently abounds; and, if this is the case, it must of course not only render the fruit, the herbs, and the other aliments of the country, more wholesome, but also by this means, as well as by the suction of the lungs, and regular drinking, convey the salutary properties of the water into the minutest vessels of the body.

But, be this as it will, it is a certain fact, attested by continually repeated experience, that aged people and all persons of a relaxed and

and enfeebled conſtitution do, almoſt immediately upon coming into this country, perceive the happy effects of its air, by an invigoration of their bodily powers, and an adtional ſprightlineſs of mind, enabling them to communicate, and to receive every ſocial pleaſure with an unuſual ſatisfaction, never known in the denſe fuliginous air of London, or in the loaded atmoſphere of damp and vapourous ſituations. And this is ſuch a convincing teſtimony of the beneficial nature of the air of Tunbridge-Wells, as cannot fail of very ſtrongly recommending it to thoſe unhappy valetudinarians, whoſe relaxed fibres loudly call for its aſſiſting influence to renew their original elaſticity, and to brace them up for future action.

A COPY of the firſt DEED of GIFT in truſt, of the CHAPEL and the grounds whereon it was erected, at TUNBRIDGE-WELLS, with a LIST of the TRUSTEES appointed to it, and of the different RENEWALS of them to the preſent time.

TO all to whom theſe preſents ſhall come. The Right Hon. John Earl of Buckingham, and Viſcount Purbeck, only ſon and heir of the Right Hon. Margaret Purbeck, deceaſed, who was only daughter and heir of the Right Hon. Ulick, Earl of St. Albans and Marquis of Glanricard, deceaſed, Thomas Lake of the Middle-Temple, London, Eſq; Thomas Weller of Tonbridge, in the county of Kent, Gent. and George Weller of Tonbridge, aforeſaid, Gent. ſend greeting.

WHEREAS by the pious and charitable contributions of divers well-diſpoſed perſons, a ſtructure, or fabrick, for a chapel, for the uſe and exerciſe of Religious Worſhip, and celebration of Divine Service, and hearing of Sermons, hath been erected and built divers years ſince, upon a piece, or parcel of ground, lying near Tonbridge-Wells, in the pariſh of Tonbridge, in the county of Kent; which ſaid piece of ground was formerly part of cer-

tain lands, called inhams, and part of the late park, or foreſt, of Southfrith. And whereas the ſaid lands, together with divers other lands were long ſince granted in fee-ſimple, unto ſeveral perſons in mortgage, for ſecurity of divers conſiderable ſums of money, the equity of redemption of the ſame belonging to the ſaid Earl of Buckingham And whereas the ſaid Earl of Buckingham, Thomas Lake, Thomas Weller, and George Weller, or ſome, or one of them, have ſince paid and diſcharged all the money due upon the ſaid mortgage; and the eſtate of the ſaid premiſes is now by good conveyances and inſurances in the law, and by the direction of the ſaid Earl of Buckingham, conveyed unto the ſaid Thomas Lake, Thomas Weller, and George Weller; and they ſtand ſeized thereof in fee-ſimple. And whereas the ſaid Margaret, Viſcounteſs of Purbeck, out of a ſpecial and virtuous inclination to forward and advance the ſervice and glory of God, as alſo to oblige the ſeveral Nobility, Gentry, and Commons, that reſort to the ſaid Chapel to hear Divine Service therein, and certain other conſiderations, hath given, granted and conveyed, or hath mentioned to be given, granted and conveyed, unto the Right Rev. Father in God, Thomas, Lord Biſhop of Rocheſter, and certain other perſons, the ſaid ſtructure, fabrick,

or

or chapel, and the ground thereunto belonging and herein after particularly deſcribed, in truſt for the uſes aforeſaid. And whereas ſome queſtions have ariſen concerning the ſaid grant, in regard the ſaid Viſcounteſs was not ſeized in fee-ſimple of the ſaid premiſes at the time of making the ſaid grant. Now know ye, that the ſaid John Earl of Buckingham, of the like virtuous inclination, and to prevent all queſtions and diſputes, about the title of the ſaid mentioned to be granted premiſes; and to the intent that the ſaid Earl may be deemed, owned, and acknowledged to be the donor of the land, whereon the ſaid Chapel is built, and benefactor thereunto; and alſo by his direction and appointment the ſaid Tho. Lake, Thomas Weller, and George Weller, have given, granted, and conveyed, and by theſe preſents do give, grant, and convey, unto the Right Rev. Father in God, Thomas Lord Biſhop of Rocheſter, Sir Humphry Miller of Weſt-Peckham, in the county of Kent, Bart. William Sherlock, Dean of St. Paul's, London, Charles Amherſt, of Bayhall, in the county of Kent, Eſq; who together with the ſaid Thomas Weller, are the ſurvivors of the Truſtees formerly mentioned. And alſo unto The Right Hon. George, Baron of Abergavenny, Sir George Rivers, of Chafford, in the

county of Kent, Bart. Sir Edward Northey, her Majeſty's Attorney-General, Dr. Wm. Cave, Canon of Windſor, Dr. Nathaniel Reſbury, Rector of St. Paul's, Shadwell, in the county of Middleſex; William Strong, of Tonbridge, Eſq; Jeffery Amherſt of River-Head, Eſq; and John Duke, of Frant, in the County of Suſſex, Eſq; newly named Truſtees, in the room of thoſe deceaſed, and to their heirs and aſſigns, all the ſaid ſtructure, fabrick, or chapel, and alſo all the grounds thereunto belonging, now lying, being and containing as followeth; viz. All the ground on the Weſt, South-weſt head of the chapel, from the chapel-wall to the utmoſt bounds of the ſaid lands, late called Inhams, againſt Waterdown-foreſt, and the highway leading to Frant, containing in breadth fourteen feet, or thereabout. And all the ground from the north-weſt ſide of the ſaid chapel, and from the afore granted parcel unto the utmoſt bounds of the ſaid lands, called Inhams, againſt Biſhop's-down and the pariſh of Speldhurſt, containing in breadth, from the firſt built chapel, forty feet; and from the wall of the chapel as it now ſtandeth, ten feet, or thereabout; and the ground lying at the north-eaſt head, or end, of the ſaid chapel, containing in breadth ſeven feet, or thereabout, unto the palliſadoes there now ſtanding; and alſo the

gallery

gallery and veſtry room, or houſe, lately erected over ſeveral rooms, heretoſore in the poſſeſſion of John Wyburne, and now of John Brett, tenant to the ſaid Earl, containing in breadth, from the ſaid chapel-wall towards the ſouth-eaſt, ten feet, as the ſame is now built and ſtanding, and adjoining to ground formerly the garden of the ſaid John Wyburne, the ſaid gallery lying open to the ſaid chapel. And alſo leave, licence, and liberty, to come into the ſaid garden with workmen, inſtruments and materials, at all times needful, to repair and amend the ſaid chapel, gallery and veſtry, not doing any wilful damage or ſpoil; except and always reſerved unto the ſaid Earl, Thomas Lake, Thomas Weller, and Geo. Weller, their heirs and aſſigns for ever, all the ſaid rooms and lodgings under the ſaid gallery, and veſtry, and which ſaid chapel, gallery and veſtry, and ground thereunto belonging, do ſtand and lye in the pariſh of Tonbridge aforeſaid, in the ſaid county of Kent, and bound unto the ſaid Foreſt of Waterdown, and unto the common called Biſhop's-down, towards the weſt and north, and to the ſaid other part of the ſaid lands called Inhams, towards the eaſt and ſouth, to have and to hold the ſaid ſtructure, fabrick, or chapel, veſtry and gallery, land and premiſes above granted, with their appurtenances, unto

the

the ſaid Right Rev. Father in God, Thomas, Ld. Biſh. of Rocheſter; Sir Humphry Miller, Bart. Dr. William Sherlock, Charles Amherſt, the Right Hononourable Baron Abergavenny, Sir George Rivers, Bart. Sir Edward Northey, Dr. William Cave, Dr. Nathaniel Reſbury, William Strong, Jeffery Amherſt and John Dyke, and their heirs, to and for the uſe and behoof of them, the ſaid Thomas, Lord Biſhop of Rocheſter, Sir Humphry Miller, Dr. William Sherlock, Charles Amherſt, George, Baron of Abergavenny, Sir George Rivers, Sir Edward Northey, Dr. William Cave, Dr. Nathaniel Reſbury, William Strong, Jeffery Amherſt, John Dyke, and the ſaid Thomas Weller and George Weller, and of their heirs and aſſigns for ever *In TRUST neverthelefs, and to the intent and purpoſe that they* the ſaid Thomas, Lord Biſhop of Rocheſter, Sir Humphrey Miller, Dr. William Sherlock, Charles Amherſt, George Baron of Abergavenny, Sir George Rivers, Sir Edw. Northey, Dr. William Cave, Dr. Nathaniel Reſbury, William Strong, Jeffery Amherſt, John Dyke, Thomas Weller and George Weller, and their heirs and aſſigns, *do and ſhall permit and ſuffer the ſaid ſtructure, fabrick, or chapel, to be uſed and employed for ever, to and for the hearing, reading, uſing, and exerciſing of Divine Service and Sermons, and*

other

other Religious Rites and Ceremonies for the worſhip of God in the ſame, according to the uſage of the Church of England, and to and for no ſecular or other uſe or purpoſe whatſoever. And alſo *in further Truſt, that when, and as often, as any of the Truſtees, to the number of Seven, ſhall happen to die, the other ſurviving Truſtees, or the major part of them, ſhall within One Year,* next after the death of ſuch Seven Truſtees *name and appoint other fit perſons for parts, loyalty, honeſty and integrity, to ſucceed ſuch deceaſed Truſtees in the ſaid truſt.* And the ſaid John Earl of Buckingham, and alſo the ſaid Thomas Lake, Thomas Weller and George Weller, have conſtituted ordained and made and in their place put Edward Weller, of Tonbridge, aforeſaid, Gent. to be their certain Attorney for them, and in their name, to enter into the above granted ſtructure, fabrick, or chapel and premiſes, and poſſeſſion thereof for them to take, and after poſſeſſion ſo had and taken, to deliver unto the ſaid Thomas Lord Biſhop of Rocheſter, Sir Humphry, Miller, Dr. William Sherlock, Charles Amherſt, the Right Hon. George, Baron of Abergavenny, Sir George Rivers, Sir Edward Northey, Dr. William Cave, Dr. Nathaniel Reſbury, William Strong, Jeffery Amherſt, and John Dyke, or to ſome or one of them, to the

uſe

uſe aforeſaid, full and peaceable ſiezure or poſſeſſion, of all and ſingular the above mentioned granted ſtructure, fabrick, or chapel, land and premiſes, according to the tenure, form and effect of theſe preſents; ratifying, confirming and allowing, all whatever their ſaid Attorney ſhall lawfully do, or cauſe to be done, in the premiſes, as fully and effectually, to all intents and purpoſes, as if the ſaid Earl, Thomas Lake, Thomas Weller and George Weller had done the ſame in their own perſons.

IN WITNESS whereof the ſaid John, Earl of Buckingham, Thomas Lake, Thomas Weller and George Weller, have hereunto ſet their hands and ſeals, the 15th day of February, in the ſecond year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Ann, by the Grace of God, Queen of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. Anno Dom. 1703.

BUCKINGHAM.
THOMAS LAKE.
THOMAS WELLER.
CEORGE WELLER.

Sealed and delivered, (the ſtamps being firſt affixed) in the preſence of

THOMAS TOMLYN.
THOMAS WEEKLY.

MEMO-

MEMORANDUM.—That full and peaceable ſeizen and poſſeſſion of the ſtructure, and premiſes within granted, was had and taken by the within-named Edward Weller, and by him delivered to the within-named Grantees, according to the form, tenure, and effect of the deed within-written. In the preſence of

THOMAS WELLER,
WILLIAM HUNT,
PHILIP SEALE,
WILLIAM ASHDOWN.

I William Strong, one of the Grantees, did receive poſſeſſion accordingly.

WILLIAM STRONG.

The 16th day of February, 1727 Sir George Rivers, of Chafford, in the county of Kent, Bart. the then only ſurviving Truſtee, being ſeized in fee, by right of ſurvivorſhip, did nominate and appoint thirteen new Truſtees: viz. the then Biſhop of Rocheſter, Lord Abergavenny, Sir Edward Filmer, Mr. Hart, Mr. Toke, Mr. Lambard, Mr. Manlove, Mr. Amherſt, Mr. Goodall, Mr. Heaton, Mr. Batt, Mr. Elton, and Mr. Weſtley; to, for and upon the ſame truſts, intents and purpoſes, as are before-mentioned in the firſt deed.

The 7th day of May, 1748, Sir Edward Filmer, of Eaſt-Sutton, in the county of Kent, Bart. being then the only ſurviving Truſtee,

being ſeized in fee, by right of ſurvivorſhip, did nominate and appoint thirteen new Truſtees: viz. Lord Weſtmoreland, the Biſhop of Rocheſter, Lord Abergavenny, Lord Romney, Mr. Honeywood, Mr. Filmer, Mr. Smythe, Mr. Lambard, Mr. Brown, Mr. Godfrey, Mr. Panuwell, Mr. Cooke, and Mr. Toke; to, for and upon the ſame truſts, intents and purpoſes, as before-mentioned.

The 30th day of December, 1775, Lord Abergavenny, Lord Romney, Sir Sidney Stafford Smythe, Sir John Honeywood, Bart. Sir John Filmer, Bart. and John Cook, Eſq. in purſuance of the truſt repoſed in them by right of ſurvivorſhip, did nominate and appoint eight new Truſtees: viz. John Lord Biſhop of Rocheſter, the Hon. Henry Neville, Eſq. the Hon. Charles Marſham, Eſq. Sir Charles Farnaby, Bart. John Honeywood, Eſq. Beverſham Filmer, Eſq. John Auſten, Eſq. and Thomas Smith Panuwell, Eſq. to, for and upon the ſame truſts, intents and purpoſes as before-mentioned.

MEMORANDUM.—That on the 19th Day of June, in the year of our Lord 1776, full and peaceable poſſeſſion and ſeizen of the ſtructure, fabric or chapel, and other the premiſes before-mentioned, with the appertenancies, was taken and had by Mr. *Thomas Scoones*, of Tunbridge Town, the Attorney appointed by the laſt Truſtees; and by him delivered to *Thomas*

Thomas Smith Panuwell, Eſq. according to the form and effect of the deed. In the preſence of

CHRISTOPHER PINCHBECK,
RICRARD DELVES,
JOHN FRY,
JOHN KNIGHT,
all of *Tunbridge-Wells*.

OCTOBER 18th 1784.

WHEREAS it was the original Intention of thoſe who inſtituted the Charity-School of this place, that the effects of it might be as extenſively and as equally beneficial as poſſible; and to that end that none but the children of the poorer ſort of people be admitted, and that their education ſhould be proportioned to their ſituation, and to the employments in which they might be afterwards engaged: And whereas, in violation of this good intention, it appears that many children have been admitted into the School whoſe parents are able to pay for their inſtruction elſewhere, to the utter excluſion of thoſe who are the proper objects of it: And whereas, even of the poorer ſort, three and ſometimes four of one family have been received; and alſo, that many have continued longer in the ſchool than was conſiſtent with the prudent deſign of the inſtitution.

RESOLVED, at the Veſtry held this day,—That on the 25th day of December next, and yearly, on the 29th of September, the Miniſter

niſter of the Chapel, or his Curate, be requeſted to examine the ſeveral children of the School, and to diſmiſs from any future benefit of it thoſe who ſhall appear to him to be properly qualified in reading and writing.

AND it is further Reſolved, That after the 25th day of December next, no children ſhall continue in the School after the age of twelve years; and that no more than two of one family ſhall be entitled to the benefit of the Charity at the ſame time, unleſs the family be very large, and then at the diſcretion of the Miniſter. And alſo, upon every vacancy, the preference ſhall always be given to thoſe children whoſe parents are moſt neceſſitous. And, that no boy ſhall be received but between the age of ſix and twelve; and no girls but between the age of eight and twelve years.

FREDERICK PIGOU.

N. B. The laſt deed from which a copy was entered, in a book kept in the Veſtry-Room of the Chapel, was placed in the hands of Lord Chief Baron Smythe,

An Account of the Original Foundation of the GROVE, *called* Mount-Sion Grove, *at* Tunbridge-Wells; *for the Benefit of the Inhabitants and Company reſorting there.*

BY a deed made the 20th of April, 1703, (which is inrolled in the Court of Chancery) the

the Grove, called Mount-Sion Grove, at Tunbridge-Wells in the County of Kent, containing by eſtimation four acres, (more or leſs) being heretofore part of certain lands called Inhams, and Waghorne's-Foreſt, and part of the park or foreſt called South-Frith, was conveyed by the Right Honourable John Earl of Buckingham, and others, to four Truſtees, *viz.* John Dyke, of Frant, in the county of Suſſex, Eſq. Robert Baker, of Rotherfield, in Suſſex, Eſq. Nicholas Fowle, jun. of Wadhurſt, in the ſaid county, Gent. and Henry Weller, of Frant, aforeſaid, Gent. and to their Heirs for ever; upon this Truſt and Confidence always, and to the intent and purpoſe that the ſaid Grove, and the trees there growing, or to grow, ſhall not be cut down, nor the ſaid grove or trees converted to any private uſe, but ſhall be continually preſerved for a grove and ſhade, and walks, for the uſe of all the inhabitants of the ſeveral houſes built, or to be built, or which ſhall be built on the ſeveral purchaſes therein mentioned; or any other land, late parcel of the ſaid lands, called Inhams, or the park or foreſt of South-Frith;— and for their lodgers, ſervants and families to come, go and walk in and upon the ſaid Grove at their will and pleaſure: And upon this further truſt and confidence, that the ſaid Truſtees and their heirs and aſſigns, ſhall at the requeſt, coſt and charges of the ſaid inhabitants, or of ſuch of them as ſhall require the ſame, uſe ſuch lawful ways and means for the preſervation of the ſaid Grove, and to prevent and remedy all treſpaſſes, encroachments and nuiſances, which ſhall or may be committed therein, as ſhall be thought

thought fit and adviſeable; the ſaid Truſtees being always ſaved harmleſs and indemnified by the ſaid inhabitants, or ſuch perſons of them as ſhall require ſuch ways or means to be uſed, from all charges and damages, which may happen to them thereby: And upon further truſt, that when ſo many of the Truſtees ſhall be dead, that only two of them ſhall be left living, then the ſurviving Truſtees, being thereby required by the then inhabitants of the houſes aforeſaid, or the major part of them, and at their coſt and charges, do convey over their eſtate, in the premiſes above ſaid, to new Truſtees, for the purpoſes above mentioned: And upon further truſt, that there ſhall be one coach-way into the ſaid Grove, out of the highway near the dwelling-houſe of Nicholas Wood, where a gate now is, or late was; and one other coach-way where a way is laid out on the north-ſide of the ſaid Grove, between the lands let to Mr. Young, and the lands of Mr. Brooke; and that gates be there kept up to prevent the ſame from being uſed as common high-ways; and that one common footway be thereunto through the ground of John Mercer, as is now uſed; and that one other private footway with a gate thereto, be permitted for the uſe of Mr. Young, and the occupiers and the inhabitants, and lodgers, of the houſes then built, or to be built, and that no other way, or ways, be permitted thereunto; and that the ſaid Truſtees and their heirs and aſſigns, ſhall, at the requeſt and coſt and charge of ſuch of the ſaid inhabitants as ſhall require the ſame, take and uſe ſuch legal ways to preſerve the premiſes above-mentioned, according

to

to the truſt above-ſaid. In witneſs whereof, the parties abovefaid, their hands and ſeals interchangeably have ſet, the day and year firſt above written.

By an account taken Dec. 10, 1781, the Grove then contained about two hundred oaks, ſome of them very large, containing about four or five loads of timber in a tree, ten large beech trees, about ſixty ſmall trees of lime and ſycamore, two fir and two yew trees.

In the winter 1782, twenty-ſix decayed oak trees were marked and felled by order of the Truſtees, and ſold for 150l. part of which was expended in making good the fence belonging to the Grove, painting the fence and putting up new benches, laying out the walk in the middle of the ſaid Grove, repairing the ride round it, ornamenting the ſame, and planting young trees. The remainder of the 150l. was inveſted the 27th of Jan. 1784, in the purchaſe of 150l. 3 per cent. Conſolidated Bank Annuities, now ſtanding in the books of the Bank of England, in the names of the laſt Truſtees; who have ſigned a Declaration, that the intereſt ariſing from the ſame ſhall, from time to time, be applied for the preſervation, ſupport, and ornament of the ſaid Grove.

Upon the ſtricteſt enquiry it appears that four Truſtees, in the deed beforementioned, have been long ſince dead; and it does not appear that they did appoint any new Truſtees.—Upon ſearching the Pariſh Regiſter it was found that

that Robert Baker, one of the Truſtees aforeſaid, did ſurvive the other three, and by a Certificate from the Pariſh Regiſter of Mayfield, ſigned by Mr. John Kirby, Vicar of that Pariſh, the ſaid Robert Baker, was brought from London, and buried there the 29th day of September 1721. It was neceſſary to find out who are his heirs at law, and this Grove being in the county of Kent, where the cuſtom of Gavelkind prevails, was the more difficult to diſcover; but after the moſt diligent enquiry, it appears that the ſaid Robert Baker, and his two brothers, dying without iſſue, Robert's two ſiſters, Dorothea and Elizabeth, became his co-heirs.—Dorothea married Andrew Kenrick of Cheſter, Eſq. and her grandſon, Richard Kenrick, at Nantclywd, near Ruthin, in Denbyſhire, Eſq. now living, is her heir at law.

Elizabeth married Mr. Robert Bicknell, of Clifford's-Inn, and her five great grand-ſons, now living, are her heirs at law; ſo that theſe muſt all be made parties to a deed for appointing four new Truſtees, for executing the ſaid Truſt.

If the heirs ſhould refuſe to fill up the Truſt, by a proper application to the Court of Chancery, that Court will oblige them to do it.

ROBERT

ROBERT BAKER, the Surviving TRUSTEE of the Grove, at *Tunbridge Wells*, had two Brothers and two Sisters;

ROBERT BAKER and his two Brothers died without Iſſue.

The two Siſters were named DOROTHEA and ELIZABETH;

Dorothea his Siſter married Andrew Kenrick

Andrew Kenrick of Woo.

Richard Kenrick of Nantclwyd, near Ruthin, Denbyſh. now living.

Elizabeth, his other Siſter, married Robert Bicknell,

Robert Bicknell, Eſq; Maſter in Chancery.

Robert Bicknell, Eſq;

Charles Bicknell, died without Iſſue.

- - - Bicknell, died without Iſſue

Robert Bicknell. 1ſt Son.

- - Bicknell. 2d Son.

- - Bicknell. 3d Son.

- - Bicknell, 4th Son.

- - Bicknell. 5th Son.

All now living.

*** The foregoing account of the Grove and Chapel, was tranſmitted to the editor by Beverſham Filmer, Eſq; to whom the inhabitants of Tunbridge-Wells are much indebted, for the pains he has taken in the ſaid diſcoveries. The account was accompanied with the following polite note.

"The King's-Road, near Bedford-Row,
March 5, 1782."

"MR. SPRANGE,

"After having received benefit by drinking the "waters, and likewiſe many civilities from the inhabi- "tants, it will give me pleaſure if I can be of any "ſervice to the place; and therefore according to my "promiſe, I here ſend you an authentic account of the "original foundation of the Chapel and Grove there."

*** In conſequence of the aſſiduity and perſeverence of the aforeſaid Beverſham Filmer, Eſq; in this buſineſs, by indenture of leaſe and releaſe, bearing date the 26th and 27th of July, 1782, the heirs of the ſaid Robert Baker, did convey the aforeſaid Grove, called Mount-Sion Grove, with the appurtenances, to the Right Hon. Sir Richard Heron, of Tunbridge-Wells, Bart. Martin Yorke, of the ſame place, Eſq; George Children of Tunbridge Town, Eſq; and Beverſham Filmer, of the King's-Road, near Bedford-Row, in the county of Middleſex, Eſq; to, for and upon the ſame truſts, uſes, intents and purpoſes, as ſpecified in the original deed: which Deed may be ſeen by applying to the aforeſaid George Children, Eſq; at Tunbridge Town.

Of the MEDICINAL WATER *at* TUNBRIDGE-WELLS.

THE next thing that naturally preſents itſelf to our obſervation is the water, to which the country we are treating of owes all its diſtinction.

The whole neighbourhood of Tunbridge-Wells abounds with ſprings of mineral water; but, as the properties of all are nearly the ſame, only thoſe two which, at their firſt diſcovery, were adjudged the beſt, are held in any particular eſtimation.

Theſe two wells are incloſed with a handſome triangular ſtone wall; and, within this wall, are ſurrounded by a well paved area, into which you deſcend, by a few ſteps, thro' a handſome gateway. Over the ſprings are placed two convenient baſons of * Portland ſtone, with perforations at the bottom, through which they receive the water, and with an opening

* One of theſe baſons was given by Queen Anne, and the other by the Lord of the Manor.

on the edge to diſcharge the overflowings, which are carried to the neighbouring brook by a little drain cut in the pavement.

The water itſelf at the ſpring is extremely clear and bright, without any ſort of colour: its taſte is pleaſingly ſteely, it has hardly any perceptible ſmell, though ſometimes, in a denſe air, its ferruginous exhalations are very diſtinguiſhable; and, in point of heat, it is, invariably temperate, let the atmoſphere be in whatever ſtate it will; for this is one of thoſe ſprings which lie ſo deep in the bowels of the earth, that it can neither be affected by the ſcorching ſun-beams of the ſummer, nor the ſevereſt froſts of the winter.

When it is firſt taken up in a large glaſs, its particles continue at reſt, till it is warmed to nearly the heat of the atmoſphere, then a few airy globules begin to ſeparate themſelves and adhere to the ſides of the veſſel; and, in a few hours more, a light copper coloured ſcum begins to ſwim on the ſurface; after which an ochreous ſediment ſettles at the bottom. The ſcum of this water is really an object of curioſity when detached from the water itſelf, which

which is eaſily done by introducing a piece of writing paper under it: the paper, when dry, appears to be gilt; and when examined thro' a microſcope, reſembles a piece of rich embroidery, ornamented with ſtuds of gold.

Long continued rains ſometimes gives the water a milky appearance, but do not otherwiſe ſenſibly affect it.

From the experiments of different phyſicians it appears that the component parts of this water are—ſteely particles, marine ſalts, an oily matter, an ochreous ſubſtance, ſimple water, and a volatile vitriolic ſpirit, too ſubtile for any chemical analyſis.—In weight it is in ſeven ounces and a quarter, four grains lighter than the German Spa, and ten grains lighter than common water: and it requires five drops of Oleum Sulphuris, or Elixir Vitrioli to a quart of water to preſerve its virtues at a diſtance from the ſpring; but to drink it in perfection, recourſe muſt always be had to the fountain-head.

The water is ſaid to be an impregnation of rain in ſome of the neighbouring eminences,

which, in common with moſt other elevated ſituations in theſe northern parts of the globe, providentially abound in iron mineral, and where, by a nice natural chemiſtry infinitely ſuperior to the utmoſt efforts of art, the water is further enriched with the marine ſalts, and all thoſe valuable ingredients whereby it is conſtituted a light pure chalybeate, which inſtantly pervades the moſt remote receſſes of the human frame, warms and invigorates the relaxed conſtitution, reſtores the weakened fibres to their due tone and elaſticity, removes every obſtruction to which the minuter veſſels of the body are liable, and becomes thereby adapted to moſt cold chronical diſorders, lowneſs of ſpirits, weak digeſtions, and nervous complaints.

But that I may the leaſt miſtake, in a matter I am not qualified to diſcuſs without borrowed light, I muſt now ſummon to my aid the moſt diſtinguiſhed of thoſe phyſicians who have wrote upon this ſubject.

And here I cannot but lament it as a public misfortune, that no regular phyſician has conſtantly reſided in the place to regiſter caſes; and that

that no gentleman of the faculty who has of late years occaſionally attended it in the ſeaſon, has thought himſelf ſufficiently intereſted in the ſucceſs of the water, to take the trouble of communicating the full reſult of his particular experience*.

But notwithſtanding this neglect, we are not without many authentic teſtimonies of the efficacious effects of this water, in the cure of numerous diſeaſes incident to human nature, in the writings of learned phyſicians, as well as in the experience of multitudes who are annually benefited thereby.

Doctor Lodowick Rowzee, who many years attended the place, has profeſſedly wrote "a treatiſe upon the nature and virtues of Tunbridge water;" and, from the experience which he acquired in his cloſe attendance at the Wells, has judiciouſly pointed out a great number

* If any phyſician ſhould hereafter reſide on the ſpot, or for many years ſucceſſively attend the place, it is to be hoped he will in a great meaſure remove the cauſe of this complaint, by keeping an hiſtory of his own practice: which probably may in time be of eſſential ſervice, towards forming an experimental hiſtory of the nature and properties of Tunbridge-Wells Water.

number of diſeaſes in which it is extremely ſerviceable.

This gentleman moſt ſtrongly recommends Tunbridge-Wells Water as an effectual deobſtruent, which very ſucceſsfully opens all manner of obſtructions however ſtubborn and obſtinate they may be: and conſequently is of eſſential ſervice in all diſeaſes proceeding from this fruitful ſource, ſuch as tedious agues, the black and yellow jaundice, ſchirrus of the ſpleen, ſcurvy, green-ſickneſs, fluor albus, and in the menſes, deficient or redundant; in the firſt, by opening obſtructions, in the ſecond, by cooling the blood when too hot and fluxile, and by corroborating the organs of that excretion when too much weakened.

He alſo ſays, that Tunbridge-Wells Water ſcowers and cleanſes all the urinary paſſages, and therefore is good againſt the gravel and ſtone in the kidnies, the ureters, or the bladder, particularly in the beginning attacks of this diſorder, before the earthy parts of the urine are ſettled and concreted in the ſlimy humours which are the firſt foundation of this diſeaſe: and he further maintains, that from its

its aſtringent and healing properties, it is an effectual remedy for all inward ulcers, eſpecially for thoſe of the liver, the kidnies, and the bladder; and in this opinion of mineral ſteely waters, Doctor Rowzee is ſupported by "Scribonius Largus," and by "Archigenes," and in "Ætius," who have ſtrongly recommended their uſe in the like caſes. This doctor alſo ſays, they are good in bloody urine, and in diſſolving and waſhing away a kind of clammy phlegmatic excrement, ſometimes bred in the bladder, and which ſo exactly mimics all the ſymptoms of the ſtone as to deceive the moſt experienced.

He alſo aſſerts it is good againſt inveterate dyſenteries and all other fluxes of the belly, that it extinguiſhes all inward inflammations, and hot diſtempers, without the leaſt hurting the ſtomach by its coldneſs: but on the contrary, ſo greatly corroborates and ſtrengthens it, that in ſome it provokes too great an appetite. It is alſo good he ſays in the cholic, proceeding from tough tartareous phlegm, in vomitting, the hiccup, and in worms; likewiſe in the gonorrhœa ſimplex et venerea, in caruncles of the urethra, as being of a remarkable

able drying faculty; and in paralytic diſorders a tendency to apoplexy, and lethargic complaints, as ſtrengthening the brain and origin of the nerves; and from the ſame cauſe of remarkable efficacy in hypochondriacal diſorders. And to this he adds, that, in the external uſe, it helps ſore eyes, red pimples, and other cutaneous infirmities, "and I muſt not forget, ſays "the doctor, in behalf of the women, that "there is nothing better againſt barrenneſs, and "to make them fruitful, if other good and fit-"ting means, ſuch as their ſeveral caſes may re-"quire, be duly joined with the water."

That eminent able phyſician, Dr. Allen, is another who has given public teſtimony in favour of the water of Tunbridge-Wells, and particularly enumerated many of the caſes in which, in the courſe of his practice, he found it an efficacious remedy. I tranſcribe his account of the medicinal uſes of this water from "Rutty's Synopſis," with only a trifling variation of expreſſion in the firſt article, where his perplexed manner has rendered an alteration neceſſary:

Dr.

" Dr. Allen obſerves—

" I. It is an effectual remedy in obſtruc-
" tions of the glands of the meſentery, where-
" in beſides the ſigns of chylous excrement
" and rejection of food an hour or two after
" eating, the patient has no complaint neither
" of want of appetite, diſcernible fever, nor
" any other diſorder, until the diſeaſe is con-
" tinued ſo long as to induce a cough, a
" fever, a want of reſt, and a loſs of fleſh.
" In this caſe, of which there are not a few
" inſtances, Tunbridge Wells-Water hath not
" failed thoſe who have tried it,

" II. This water hath proved alſo an effec-
" tual remedy in recent dropſies, in thoſe
" whoſe conſtitution is broken by trouble,
" and in the phlegmatic, whoſe blood wants
" invigorating. And its effects are no leſs con-
" ſiderable in diſorders of the ſtomach, and
" particularly exquiſite pains, eſpecially con-
" vulſive ones, in the hypochondriacal and fla-
" tulent cholic.

" III. A painful tumour at the pit of the
" ſtomach, of many years ſtanding, and repu-
" ted ſchirrus, was removed by this water.—

" A fiſtula, of many years ſtanding, was effec-
" tually cured in ſix weeks by the ſole drink-
" ing of it. More than one ulceration of the
" kidnies hath been cured thereby. And a
" gentlewoman, who for many years had never
" eſcaped an aſſault of a periodical fever and
" cough in October, was freed therefrom by
" drinking this water."

" Dr. Slare, continues Rutty, aſſures us this
" water is an effectual remedy in obſtinate and
" inveterate diarrhœas.

" Dr. Linden eſteems it of the moſt ſin-
" gular efficacy in curing the remains of the
" venereal diſorder; in which caſe, he ſays,
" he has known it of ſuch eminent ſervice,
" that he holds it almoſt neceſſary for all who
" have gone through a ſalivation, to cloſe with
" drinking the chalybeate water; which is ſo-
" vereignly good to recover and ſtrenghten the
" tone of the weakened and injured veſſels,
" and to extirpate the remains of mercury
" lurking in the body after the cure of this
" diſorder."

And

And here it would be an unpardonable neglect not to mention one virtue in this water, which, though more univerſally acknowledged than all the others, and moſt inconteſtably eſtabliſhed on the firm foundation of frequently repeated experience, has too generally been omitted by the writers upon this ſubject. I mean its prolific qualities, of which every ſeaſon furniſhes renewed and often ſurpriſing proofs. It has indeed an amazing efficacy in ſtrengthening, and cleanſing the generative organs, and removing the complaint of unfruitfulneſs, eſpecially when it proceeds from a cold, moiſt, and relaxed habit of body, too weak for the purpoſes of conception, whether it is occaſioned by the irregular manner of living, or derived from the original conſtitution of the patient. This water has been ſo wonderfully ſucceſsful, in almoſt innumerable caſes of this kind, that, if it had no other virtue, this alone would be ſufficient to render it famous, and to make it invaluable; but beſides this, it is in the higheſt degree ſerviceable in all other female complaints, and all the diſeaſes pointed out by the forecited phyſicians, when it is properly taken and judiciouſly

aſſiſted, is a matter of fact ſo well atteſted and confirmed by ſuch a long ſeries of experience, that it will not now admit of the leaſt ſhadow of diſpute amongſt men of candour and judgement,

To bring this obſervation home to our preſent purpoſe—I mean firſt to ſpeak againſt the abuſe of the native Chalybeate water—It is a miſtaken notion and a vulgar error, that patients cannot drink too much of this water.—I have often heard men boaſt of the very large quantity they drink of it daily; and of its wonderful effects in paſſing off by the bowels, eſpecially by urine. They ignorantly imagine that all its virtues depend upon its paſſing off quickly, and by this erroneous conduct, many perſons deprive themſelves of the benefit they might otherwiſe receive from the waters. A pint of the Tunbridge waters, for they are nearly ſimilar, contains about four grains of ſteel. In my opinion this is a ſufficient quantity for the ſtrongeſt conſtitutions, and too large a doſe for delicate and nervous patients. Thi doctrine is perhaps new, but I hope that it is true likewiſe.

Some

Some GENERAL OBSERVATIONS *on the* DIET *proper for* PATIENTS *and on the* TIME *and* MANNER *of drinking the* MEDICINAL WATERS *of* TUNBRIDGE-WELLS.

WHEN all thoſe virtues mentioned in the preceding chapter are aſcribed to Tunbridge-Wells-Water, we muſt not by any means be underſtood to ſuppoſe that the water alone, without regular management and ſuitable aſſiſtance, is capable of curing theſe numerous diſorders. No,—as well may you expect to have an houſe built by throwing the materials into an heap, as to have a diſeaſe removed by an irregular and injudicious uſe of any mineral water whatſoever. It is therefore neceſſary, in order to inſure all the ſucceſs that may be reaſonably expected from an application to this noble remedy, that patients ſhould be regular in their living and exerciſes, and well adviſed as to the manner of preparing themſelves, the time of drinking, and the quantity which they may be able to bear without injury to their conſtitutions.

As to living, temperance in eating, drinking, ſleep, and exerciſe, is ſo obviouſly neceſſary to every valetudinarian, that none can have any room to think of recovering health without it. In order thefore to give the water fair play, it is proper to uſe moderate exerciſe, and eſpecially gentle riding, during the whole time of drinking it; to be temperate in ſleep, and leave the bed tolerably early in the morning; to baniſh care and melancholy from the mind, and encourage mirth and good humour; to live with regularity on wholeſome food; to uſe good well baked bread, made of pure wheat; and ſuch kinds of meat as yield good nouriſhment, and are eaſy of digeſtion; avoiding rich ſauces and a variety of diſhes, and eating with ſome reſerve, enough to ſatisfy nature, but not to encourage gluttony.

As to the time of drinking the water, it is generally ſuppoſed, that all chalybeate waters are in the higheſt perfection from May to October, and that they are moſt ſerviceable in warm and dry weather; but it muſt not be underſtood, that their virtues are ſo abſolutely confined to one ſeaſon, as to be uſeleſs in all others,

others; on the contrary, it is an allowed fact, that in hard froſt, the Tunbridge-Water is ſtronger than at any other time, becauſe then the evaporation of the volatile ſpirit is retarded, and the water conſequently rendered more penetrating and active by its detention, from whence ariſes an encreaſe of efficacy in many caſes.

And here it may be proper to obſerve, that it is a great miſtake of thoſe writers, who aſſert—"that the water is at ſuch times intolerably cold to the throat, mouth, and ſtomach, ſo that it muſt chill the drinker before its ſpiritous parts can come into action*." In contradiction to this unfair repreſentation, I refer to what has been already ſaid, viz. "that the water is invariably temperate, let the atmoſphere be in whatever ſtate it will;" and, as this is ſo far from being peculiar to Tunbridge-Water, that it is the well-known property of almoſt all perennial ſprings, it is the more ſurpriſing that any gentleman acquainted with the ſubject ſhould fall into ſuch an error. The water in the baſon may indeed be affected with very ſevere froſts,

* Vide Lucas on Water.

froſts, and ſometimes, in extremely hard weather, it has been frozen; but on emptying this away, the freſh water that ariſes will be much warmer than the external atmoſphere, and may be drank with pleaſure at any time; or, if it ſhould be eſteemed too cold for ſome ſtomachs, the evil is eaſily remedied, by keeping a little hot water always at hand to pour into the glaſs juſt as it is put to the lips, which, if managed with tolerable quickneſs, may be done without danger of evaporating the mineral ſpirit.

It is therefore on good ground, that the doctors Rouzee and Linden have conjectured, that this water would be as good and efficacious in froſty weather, as in the heat of ſummer; and that, if the nobility and gentry, who attend the public buſineſs in town during the winter ſeaſon, would in their vacations viſit Tunbridge-Wells, ſituated as it is at an eaſy diſtance, and drink the water in clear weather, it is reaſonable to conclude it would be the means of prolonging many a valuable life, and of preſerving an uninterrupted ſtate of health, by removing thoſe obſtructions of

the

the minuter veſſels, which a full diet, ſedentary life, and much application of mind, in the leſs pure air of a great and populous city too readily occaſion.

But, as the ſummer is the only ſeaſon at preſent employed in drinking this water, we will return to that happy period; and then it is ſaid, that the beſt time of day for this purpoſe is ſoon in the morning, before the ſun has reached any great height, or at leaſt before it has attained force enough to raiſe the mineral ſpirit, and ſo that the quantity preſcribed may be drank, and tolerably well digeſted before breakfaſt. And, beſides the advantages reſulting from a light ſtomach, riſing in a morning, and the early exerciſe preſcribed by this method, tend greatly to exhilarate the ſpirits, and thus every way add to the natural efficacy of the water. But, uſeful, and indeed neceſſary, as this method is in moſt caſes, it is not without its diſadvantages to ſome people, and eſpecially on their firſt coming to the place; for the Tunbridge-Wells water, of itſelf, cauſes an unuſual ſleepineſs in many perſons, which cannot but be increaſed by early hours, in thoſe who have uſually indulged a

contrary habit; however, a ſparing uſe of the waters at firſt, a little moderate exerciſe, and agreeable diverting company, will ſoon remove this complaint, without any medicinal aſſiſtance; and this is a complaint which muſt be obviated as ſoon as can be, and ſtrenuouſly reſiſted by any body who expects to receive benefit from the water, becauſe ſleeping, before the water is properly diſcharged from the blood, occaſions head-achs, and other diſorders, which may furniſh cauſe to new maladies.

As to the quantity of water to be drank each day, there can be no general rules given, but what muſt be expoſed to innumerable objections, becauſe it muſt be ſuited to every ones particular caſe, and probably will require to be increaſed and diminiſhed, according to the different ſtages and variations of the complaint. It is therefore neceſſary that this ſhould be regulated by ſome underſtanding phyſician, who is well acquainted with the nature of the water, and the conſtitution and diſorder of the patient.

There certainly is a very wide difference, with reſpect to quantity, between the uſage of preſent

preſent age, and of the time when the ſprings were firſt diſcovered; but, whether this alteration in practice be for the advantage of the diſeaſed, or not, it would be great preſumption in me to pretend to determine; however, from ſome recent and remarkable inſtances that have happened to fall under my own obſervation, I muſt confeſs I am prejudiced in favour of a more copious quantity than now is generally drank. But, if in the preſent practice too little is generally allowed, it is very highly probable that our anceſtors ran as much into the contrary extreme, when they preſcribed ſix, and even nine quarts in a morning, for a cuſtomary doſe. It was indeed neceſſary to riſe early, and to work hard, to digeſt ſo large a quantity of water before breakfaſt.

The ſame that is above ſaid of the quantity, may alſo be applied to the time of continuing to drink this water, ſince it is equally neceſſary that this ſhould be determined in conformity to the different caſes of patients by the judgment of phyſicians: in ſome perhaps a few weeks may ſuffice, in others months are not enough, and with ſome it may be neceſſary to attend it year after year to perfect a cure.

Here I cannot refrain from inſerting an obſervation, originally made by Dr. Rowzee, and adopted by ſome later writers, viz. that it is neceſſary, in order to prevent the bad effects that may ariſe from prematurely taking or forſaking ſo powerful and active a medicine as theſe ſpirituous ferruginous waters are, to begin cautiouſly with a ſmall quantity, to riſe by degrees to the proper pitch, and, having continued there as long as is judged expedient, then to decline and decreaſe by the ſame ſlow degrees and leave off at the quantity begun with.

By thus drinking the Tunbridge-Wells-Water, by living temperately, and by entering chearfully into all the amuſing pleaſures of the place, many, in time paſt, have recovered their healths, and re-eſtabliſhed their conſtitutions, who were in all appearance haſtening to their graves; and it is not to be reaſonably doubted, but that the ſame methods will, through the bleſſing of Providence, be attended with equally happy effects, to the lateſt poſterity.

Some further REMARKS, *and* GENERAL RULES *laid down, by an able* PHYSICIAN *in Practice at the Time this* BOOK *is published, is presumed will be deemed a valuable Acquisition.*

To INVALIDS *and* OTHERS, *frequenting* TUNBRIDGE-WELLS.

I THINK it my duty, as a well-wisher to mankind, to advise every one who is really ill to consult the person who has the care of his health, not only as to what should be taken preparatory to the use of the waters, but likewise as to the quantity proper to be drunk, the regimen necessary to be pursued while he is drinking the waters; and, *in many cases*, to be directed to some little medicinal aid, which may be thrown in, at proper intervals, to assist the efficacy of the waters themselves. Without these precautions, half of the patients deprive themselves of the advantages they might receive from the use of mineral waters.

I come now to speak of the *Native Chalybeate Water*.—It is a powerful remedy for the curative

curative intention of moſt chronic complaints. Its efficacy *alone*, when properly adminiſtered, will remvoe many diſorders. When aided and aſſiſted by the judgment of an able practitioner, it will oftentimes combat the moſt obſtinate and complicated diſeaſes.

The native Chalybeate Waters are ſalutary in moſt chronic complaints.

Chronic is a term of art, derived from the Greek word *Chronos*, *time*, and comprehends every diſorder which has been of long ſtanding: It is uſed in direct oppoſition to *acute* complaints, ſuch as the general kinds of fevers, &c. *Acute* complaints neceſſarily confine patients to the bed, or the ſick chamber; and terminate quickly, either by a favourable, or an unfavourable criſis. On the contrary, patients are ſeldom confined by *chronic* complaints, and theſe are not only tedious and troubleſome, but often fatal in the end.

The following are juſtly to be ranged under this numerous tribe of chronic complaints.

Nervous Diſeaſes of all Denominations.
Hypochondriac and Hyſteric Complaints.
Glandular Obſtructions in both Sexes.

Aſthmas,

Aſthmas, eſpecially thoſe of the ſpaſmodic Kind.
Loſs of Appetite and Indigeſtion.
Nervous head-achs and involuntary Twitchings.
Dropſical Complaints of every Denomination.
Dejection of Spirits and painful Watchings.
Profuſe Sweats and Hectic Fevers.
Impurities in the Blood and animal Juices.
Blotches and ſcorbutic Eruptions upon the Skin.
All bilious Complaints without a Fever.
Diſorders in the urinary Paſſages.
Paralytic and Gouty Complaints, &c. &c.

Chronic complaints are directly oppoſite to inflammatory diſeaſes, which require evacuations to reduce the quick, hard, and throbbing pulſe, and pull down the animal ſtrength. In chronic complaints, muſcular motion is univerſally oppreſſed, the pulſe languid, and the ſtrength of the conſtitution much below par. Therefore, unleſs accidental circumſtances intervene, bleeding is improper, violent cathartics are injurious, and all evacuations which tend to reduce the ſtrength of the patient muſt be avoided: ſuch practice is unwarrantable, unſkilful, fatal. Nature, in chronic complaints, requires a ſpur; and the native Chalybeate Water, when properly adminiſtered, is a powerful ſpur indeed—but many unſkilful riders

are

are continually thrown out of the courſe, by uſing it too furiouſly.

I truſt that it is unneceſſary to uſe any farther argument to prove the abſurdity of directing Chalybeate Waters to paſs off quick by the bowels, eſpecially by the urinary paſſages.*

Before I proceed to rules for drinking the waters, although it is the province of the phyſician only to conſider and to remove the firſt and remote cauſes of chronic complaints, I ſhall touch ſlightly upon ſome of them, well known to patients themſelves, with a view to guard againſt their pernicious conſequences. A want of proper air and exerciſe, irregular hours, and intemperance; the indulgence of irregular paſſions, and all ſuch purſuits as relax the conſtitution, and render the nervous ſyſtem too exquiſitely ſenſible. For this reaſon delicate habits of body are continually ſubject to them; and they are the conſtant attendants of advanced life. Even diſappointments and vexations, from which no mortal is exempt, by long continuance will unhinge the animal œconomy.

* If my reader be ſatisfied in this point, he will readily agree with me, that a pint of theſe waters is a doſe.

Dwelling

Dwelling inceſſantly upon diſagreeable objects enervates the mind of man; and ſuch is the relative connection betwixt the mental and corporeal faculties, that the mind cannot long ſuſtain great afflictions, without the body being diſordered likewiſe.

Hence it is evident, that a dejection of the ſpirits alone will, in the courſe of time, produce real bodily complaints; which muſt be removed before the natural chearfulneſs of ſuch patients can return; and they oftentimes prove intolerable burthens.

What can be more diſtreſſing than a loſs of appetite, and a loſs of ſtrength, accompanied with a total dejection of the animal ſpirits? Nothing ſurely—except the daily inſult of being told, by their miſtaken friends, that they muſt keep up their ſpirits—that they muſt not give way to their complaints, and that they might be well if it was not their own fault. Alas! they little think, or know, what ſuch unhappy beings feel. It would be more rational to tell them to change their bodies—it being impoſſible for them to ſupport their ſpirits, till the errors in their conſtitutions are removed. Such patients are under the influence of a real diſeaſe.

Were it poſſible for theſe miſtaken friends to change ſituations, but for a ſingle hour, with thoſe who are *pleaſantly*, but *cruelly*, called *hippiſh*, a tenderneſs and concern for their misfortunes would take place of anger and rebuke.

Chalybeate Waters are not intended to promote any of the ſenſible evacuations. They are to be received into the habit, to correct the impurities of the blood and animal juices; to remove glandular obſtructions; to promote inſenſible perſpiration; to brace up relaxed fibres; and to ſtrengthen weak nerves: Therefore an immediate benefit can ſeldom be expected from them. Errors of long ſtanding, that have taken faſt root in the conſtitution, require ſome time to be eradicated. For this reaſon, ſuch as are really ill ſhould be very regular, for the firſt month, in the daily uſe of Chalybeate Waters. After that period they may relax occaſionally; but thoſe patients will act wiſely who continue them pretty conſtantly for ſome months. Such perſons as reap an advantage from the waters need not be reminded of this, nor of returning to them again in the following ſeaſons. Inclination, if not neceſſity, will

will prompt them to reviſit the reviving Chalybeate ſprings.

We are now come to the moſt arduous part of our ſubject, the quantity *proper* to be taken of theſe waters. We have already cautioned the public againſt too large a doſe; but it is not ſo eaſy, *in all caſes*, to adjuſt the proper quantity. In bilious complaints, and where there are errors in the firſt paſſages, that proportion will offend the ſtomach, occaſion the cholic and other inconveniencies, which may be taken with great propriety where no ſuch diſorders exiſt. But as I have before mentioned the neceſſity of preparing the ſtomach and bowels, by ſome proper evacuations, for the reception of Chalybeate Waters, this inconvenience cannot be more effectually guarded againſt by general directions.

In a word, *therefore*, at all times, and by all patients, this ſhould be the governing rule of their conduct—never to take ſo large a doſe of the Chalybeate Water as to occaſion a quick diſcharge by urine, or to produce purging ſtools; and, indeed, never to take ſo large a quantity as to become a weight, that may op-

preſs the ſtomach, cauſe flatulencies and trem-blings, or render the head light and uncom-fortable, as if in ſome meaſure intoxicated. Where the conſtitution is too delicate, and the nervous ſyſtem is too exquiſitely ſenſible, ſurpriſing as it may appear to thoſe who are un-acquainted with theſe waters, even ſmall doſes will ſometimes produce a giddineſs; eſpecially at the beginning of the courſe. To deſcend to particulars; a quarter of a pint will be ſufficient for weak and delicate perſons to begin with; this quantity may be gradually encreaſed, as their own obſervations direct, ſo as no ſenſible evacuations are too quickly promoted, or the inconveniencies before-mentioned experienc-ed. But half a pint, or a little more, will prove a full doſe for ſuch patients. I would recommend taking it at two or three draughts, waiting a quarter of an hour or longer between. Perſons of ſtouter ſtamina, and whoſe conſti-tutions are not ſo feeble, may begin with a little larger doſe, uſing the ſame precautions; and ſuch patients may, if no obſtacle ariſes, take a pint for their full quantity.

But as accidental circumſtances will inter-vene, if any of the inconveniencies before re-

cited

cited ſhould be experienced, at any one period during the courſe of Chalybeate Waters, the quantity muſt be immediately decreaſed, till ſuch difficulties be removed *.

It is farther to be remarked, that exerciſe ſhould ever be uſed between the draughts of the water; and that of walking briſkly is preferable to all other exerciſe. It wonderfully promotes the efficacy of the Chalybeate Water, prevents it paſſing off too quickly by urine, and if a gentle perſpiration, not amounting to a ſweat, can be promoted, it is a ſure prognoſtic of immediate benefit; that flow of ſpirits which accompanies it, will convince every patient of the truth of the obſervation.

I am the more particular in enforcing this rule, becauſe the general indolence which at-

* I muſt add a friendly caution, the propriety of which ſpeaks for itſelf, that whenever a coſtive habit of body prevails, and in ſuch other caſes as render an opening medicine neceſſary to be occaſionally taken, it will be beſt adminiſtered at bed-time; that the operation of the medicine may be over before the waters are taken in the morning.---One thing farther may be proper to mention, that little or no ſupper ſhould then be taken.

tend

tends Chronic complaints is too apt to induce patients te retire to the rooms, and ſit motionleſs, the moment they have taken the waters. For their own ſakes I hope they will act otherwiſe*.

There is another miſtake, and in my humble opinion a great one too, although it has received the ſanction of men whoſe judgment upon moſt occaſions is not to be doubted: I mean, that of taking off the chill of the Chalybeate Water, by adding boiling water: it immediately becomes turbid, and in ſome degree the Chalybeate is decompoſed; which in a great meaſure deſtroys the efficacy of the ſpring. I rather think this advice has been given by way of indulgence to their patients, and contrary to their own better judgments.—It is, however, my duty to ſpeak of the error, and to caution the readers againſt this miſtaken practice.

* It is much to be wiſhed ſome amuſement could be pointed out, that ſhould invite invalids to be continually in motion, while they are at the Wells. Dancing, in a moderate degree, is very proper to anſwer the purpoſe; with ſome other active purſuit which might poſſibly be found out, if the company were to pay a proper attention to the neceſſity of it.

A

DESCRIPTION

OF

TUNBRIDGE-WELLS,

IN ITS PRESENT STATE;

AND THE

AMUSEMENTS of the COMPANY,

IN THE TIME OF THE SEASON;

AND OF THE

ANCIENT and PRESENT STATE

OF THE MOST

REMARKABLE PLACES,

IN THE ENVIRONS:

Comprehending a CIRCUIT of about Sixteen Miles round the Place.

TUNBRIDGE-WELLS:
PRINTED AND SOLD BY J. SPRANGE.

MDCCLXXXV.

A

DESCRIPTION

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TUNBRIDGE-WELLS,

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AMUSEMENTS of the COMPANY,

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BRITISH MUSEUM

TUNBRIDGE-WELLS:
PRINTED AND SOLD BY J. BRANCH.

A DESCRIPTION OF TUNBRIDGE-WELLS,

IN ITS PRESENT STATE;

TUNBRIDGE-WELLS is ſituated on the ſouthern ſide of the county of Kent, juſt on the borders of Suſſex, and about thirty-ſix miles from London. It is partly built in Tunbridge pariſh, partly in Frant Pariſh, and partly in Speldhurſt pariſh; and conſiſts of four little villages, named *Mount-Ephraim*, *Mount-Pleaſant*, *Mount-Sion*, and the *Wells*; which, all united together, form a conſiderable town; whoſe boundaries are *Tunbridge* on the north, *Lamberhurſt* on the eaſt, a large and partly uncultivated *Foreſt* * on the ſouth, and *Eaſt-Grinſtead* on the weſt.

M On

* An extenſive tract of land belonging to the Right Hon. Lord Abergavenny, part of which is wood-land, which ſupplies the county every few years, with fine oak timber, and the other part, which extends to the

The Wells, properly ſo called, is the center of buſineſs and pleaſure, becauſe there the Markets, the Medicinal Water, the Chapel, the Aſſembly-Rooms, and the public Parades are ſituated.

Theſe parades are uſually called the Upper and the Lower Walk; the firſt being neatly paved with ſquare brick, raiſed about four ſteps above the other, and particularly appropriated to the company; the ſecond remains unpaved, and is chiefly uſed by country people and ſervants.

On the right hand of the paved walk in the way from the Well is the Public Parade, whereon is one of the Aſſembly-Rooms, the Library, the Coffee-Houſe, the Poſt-Office, Tunbridge Ware, Milleners and different kind of Toy-ſhops, &c. A portico is extended the whole

back of the Lodging Houſes near the Walks, is foreſt-land, ſome hundred acres of which, have within theſe few years, been brought into cultivation, and every year more of it is fenced in for that purpoſe, from the great encouragement given by the noble Lord before-mentioned, who, grants long leaſes, of any quantity, at one ſhilling per acre, to thoſe who are inclined to ſuch an undertaking; which moſt of the inhabitants are glad of the opportunity of embracing.

whole length of the parade, ſupported by Tuſcan pillars, for the company to walk under occaſionally: on the left hand is a row of large flouriſhing trees, in the midſt of which is a gallery for the muſic; and the whole is ſeparated from the lower walk by a range of neat palliſadoes.

In this place are three principal Taverns, viz. the Suſſex, the Kentiſh, and the New-Inn and Tavern; which are improved on every occaſion, with a becoming ſpirit, by the proprietors, inſomuch that they are remarked for their great conveniencies and good accommodations.

The Suſſex Tavern, together with the Aſſembly Rooms (called the lower ones) are contiguous, and held by the ſame proprietor, and are ſituate oppoſite the Parade and Library: a whole ſuit of new and handſome apartments, both for dining, and bed rooms, have been built lately, in addition to the tavern, and are pleaſantly ſituated. The Aſſembly Rooms have likewiſe been beautified and ornamented in an elegant neatneſs, agreeable to the preſent taſte.

The Angel Tavern and Inn, is ſituated extremely convenient by the road ſide, on entering the place, and near the mineral ſpring, which houſe has likewiſe undergone great improvements for many years paſt, and is now conveniently adapted and properly fitted up, both as a tavern and an Inn.

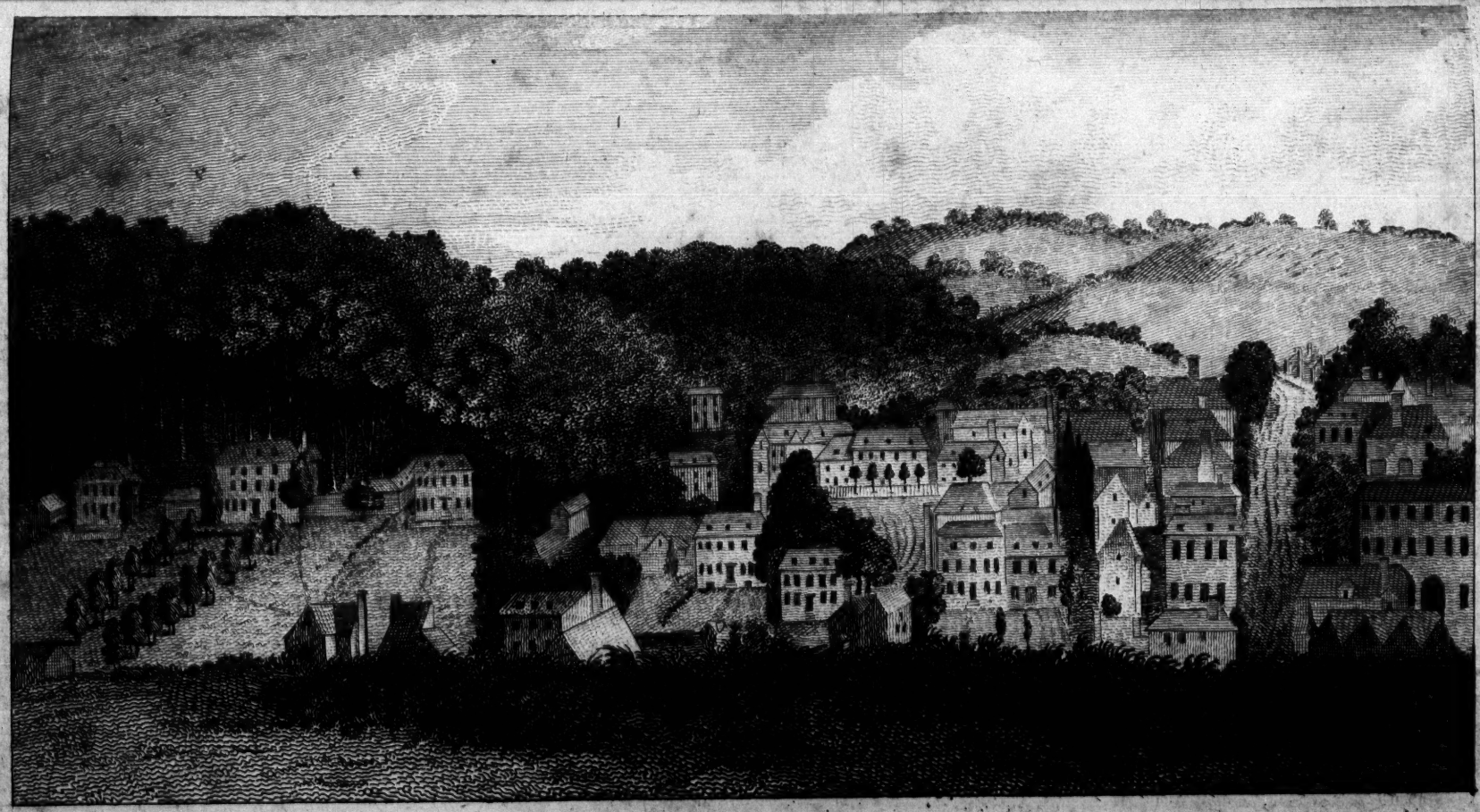
MOUNT-SION HILL*.

Is compoſed chiefly of Lodging Houſes, ſo beautifully intermixed with trees and groves, that they cannot fail of having a moſt pleaſing effect: conveying to the imagination the idea of a rural romantic retirement, while it affords all the conveniencies of a city.

This hill being open to Waterdown Foreſt on the ſouth, and ſhielded from the eaſtern winds by Calverley's Plain, always enjoys a pure wholeſome air; and, on account of its vicinity to the Wells, the houſes thereon are often preferred.

At the top of this hill is an elegant new brick houſe, the property of Mrs. Wogan, and another

* One of the firſt houſes built upon this hill was an ale-houſe, to which the whimſical landlord, whoſe name was Jordan, affixed the ſign of Mount-Sion, from whence the name of the hill is derived.



A View of Mount Sion Hill Tunbridge Wells, from the Common.

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MUSEUM

ther adjoining it, being the reſidence of Richard Cumberland, Eſq; both are ſituated on the Bowling-green, where formerly the Aſſembly-room ſtood.

A very good Preſbyterian Meeting-houſe is ſituated about the middle; and at the top of it a large grove of fine elms; which is frequently uſed by invalids and others, both for walking or riding, when either the rays of the ſun are too powerful, or the weather too precarious, to venture out to a greater diſtance.

MOUNT PLEASANT.

Mount Pleaſant gives ſite to a noble modern brick houſe, built in a genteel taſte, upon the brow of this delightful hill, which commands an extenſive proſpect of the place. The ſituation of this houſe is extremely happy, the grounds and gardens belonging to it are well-diſpoſed, and juſtly deſerves the name it has acquired. His Grace the Duke of Leeds, has honoured it with his reſidence for ſeveral ſeaſons paſt, and during that time, regularly frequented the Walks, and mixed with the company with ſuch affability and condeſcenſion, as not only to engage the reſpect due to his high rank, but that

univerſal

univerſal eſteem which greatneſs alone cannot command. This was a compliment no leſs juſtly than elegantly paid to him in a Latin ſapphic Ode, by the late very ingenious Mr. George Lewis, Vicar of Weſterham in this County, and addreſſed to his Grace, on his Annual Ball, on the Prince of Wales's Birth Day, in the year 1770.

Quiſque te lætus bone Dux ſequetur,
Quo vocas, (Nymphæ, Juvenes, Seneſque.)
Et lubens ſummos nihil arroganti
Solvet Honores.

Tranſlated by Sir WILLIAM BROWNE, M.D.

Moſt gracious Duke, glad at your Call.
Wait Nymphs and Swains, young, old, and all:
And greateſt Honours ſhall be ſhewn,
Becauſe your Grace lays claim to none.

There are two other houſes on this hill, one late belonging to the Rev. Mr. Brett; the other, called little Mount Pleaſant, was purchaſed by Lady Peachy, who has made great additions to it, and laid out a neat garden, parterres, walks, &c.

MOUNT EPHRAIM.

Is about half a mile from the water, and on account of which diſtance hath loſt much of

of its former regard; but, though it is no longer the principal part of the place—though it's Aſſembly Room is loſt—it's Bowling Green become a common field—and it's taverns are turned into private houſes; yet it will ever remain a reſpectable and uſeful quarter of Tunbridge Wells.

The houſes on this hill are all very good buildings, have the advantage of being ſurrounded with capacious gardens, groves, and pleaſant fields; and of commanding diverſified extenſive proſpects on every ſide; and the hill itſelf is ſituated in ſo exceeding fine an air as may well compenſate for all its diſadvantages. Its diſtance from the Walks can ſcarcely indeed be called a diſadvantage, ſince it makes it perhaps one of the moſt delightful places in the world, for thoſe who would mingle the ſolid charms of retirement with the more ſhewy amuſements of a public place. It is therefore not unreaſonable to conclude, that Mount Ephraim will never be neglected by thoſe, who chuce to keep an equipage in the place, and go to Tunbridge Wells more for the recovery of health than the enjoyment of pleaſure.

Two houſes on this hill, called the Caſtle Houſes, were lately purchaſed by Mrs. Johnſon, ſiſter of the late Biſhop of Worceſter; the upper one ſhe has greatly improved, by adding to the building, fencing it in with handſome paliſades, &c. and now makes it her chief place of reſidence. Mrs. Boone has alſo purchaſed the next houſe to it, which ſhe has likewiſe greatly improved. Lady Huntingdon has built a ſpacious chapel on this hill.

At the termination of Mount Ephraim, and which leads to Ruſthall Common, is

BISHOP's DOWN,

Where are ſeveral good houſes, one in particular which formerly belonged to Sir George Kelly, then the Lord of the Manor, was lately purchaſed by Martin Yorke, Eſq; who has made great improvements, and it is now become the entire reſidence of himſelf and family; from whoſe munificence, as well as from thoſe families before-mentioned, (who from purchaſing houſes have made this their place of reſidence) the neighbouring poor are greatly relieved, and kept in full employ; and the trades-people likewiſe

likewiſe reap a benefit extraordinary during the winter ſeaſon.

The trade of Tunbridge Wells is ſimilar to that of the Spa in Germany, and chiefly conſiſts in a variety of toys in wood, ſuch as tea-cheſts, dreſſing-boxes, ſnuff-boxes, punch-ladles, and numerous other little articles of the ſame kind. Of theſe great quantities are ſold to the company in ſummer, and eſpecially at their leaving the place, when it is cuſtomary for them to take Tunbridge fairings to their friends at home.

This ware takes it name from the place, on account of its employing a great number of hands, and being made there in a much neater manner than any where elſe in England. The wood prncipally uſed for this purpoſe is holly, which grows in great abundance in the ſurrounding country, and furniſhes a prodigious variety of the prettieſt ornamental inlays that can be imagined, ſome of which are ſo excellent in their kind, that it is hard to believe they are not aſſiſted by the pencil. But beſides holly, they uſe no ſmall quantity of cherry-tree, plumb-tree, yew, and ſycamore: the yew

eſpecially is of late become very faſhionable, and the goods fineered with it are certainly exceſſively pretty.

To ſum up in few words what remains on this head, it may be obſerved in general, that the ſoil of this village is dry and healthful, the water for family uſe is excellent, the air is pure and enlivening, all kinds of proviſions are plentiful and reaſonable*, the lodging-houſes

* And, among the reſt, that delicious bird, the Wheat-ear, is brought in great plenty from the South-Downs. This little bird, commonly called the Engliſh Ortolan, is not bigger than a Lark, but is infinitely preferable in the fatneſs and delicacy of it's fleſh. The manner of catching them is ſomething peculiar:---the ſhepherds make little holes in the Downs, covered with a turf about a foot long, and half a foot broad, in which they place ſnares of horſe-hair, and the birds, being very fearful of rain, run into theſe holes, for ſhelter at the approach of every cloud, and thus are caught in prodigious numbers. They are brought to the Wells in their utmoſt perfection; but, as they are in ſeaſon only in the midſt of ſummer, the heat of the weather, and their own fatneſs, make them ſo apt to corrupt, that the London poulterers dare not meddle with them; for which reaſon it is neceſſary for the epicure to go into the country, if he would indulge his appetite with one of the greateſt dainties in its kind.

houſes are neatly fitted up in the view with which they were originally built; the inhabitants are all civil and obliging in their behaviour, nor generally undeſerving the character they have obtained * of being honeſt and reaſonable in their dealings. The ſurrounding country, and eſpecially on the Foreſt ſide, abounds with as fine airings, as any in England; and, the diſtance from London being only thirty-ſix miles, a daily poſt is eſtabliſhed, a ſtage coach regularly arrives every afternoon, the public papers come in there twice a day, and men of buſineſs, on any emergency, may get to town in four or five hours without difficulty; and, with the ſame eaſe, return again to their families, and partake of all the pleaſures of the country in their utmoſt perfection, in a place where town and country are ſo happily blended, as to afford all the advantages of retirement, without any of the inconveniencies of ſolitude.

* Linden on Chalybeate Water, p. 100.

THE AMUSEMENTS of the COMPANY, IN THE TIME OF THE SEASON.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, in common with Bath, owes the preſent agreeable and judicious regularity of its amuſements, to the ſkilful aſſiduity of the celebrated Mr. Naſh; who firſt taught the people of faſhion how to buy their pleaſures, and to procure that eaſe and felicity they ſought for, without diminiſhing the happineſs of others.

Before that famous arbitrator of pleaſure aroſe to plan and improve the amuſements of the great, public places, but little eſteemed in themſelves, were only reſorted to by invalids, to whom their medicinal waters were neceſſary; and, as the manners of that age were far removed from that eaſy politeneſs and refinement of behaviour which diſtinguiſhes the preſent, the

the company was generally diſunited and unſocial, conſequently the pleaſures to be found amongſt them were neither elegant nor diverting. This was the ſituation of things when Naſh made his firſt appearance at Bath, ſince which, public places have aroſe to a great degree of eminence in the faſhionable world, and Tunbridge Wells, among the reſt, has, from that period, become the general rendezvous of gaiety and politeneſs during the ſummer.

Here your firſt buſineſs is to go to the Well, taſte the water, and pay the cuſtomary fee, called a welcome penny to the dippers, and at leaving the place you make them a further preſent, according to the time you have drank the waters; you then proceed to the other public places, and there ſubſcribe according to your rank—at the aſſembly-rooms, a crown, or more each perſon; at the coffee-houſe the ſame for each gentleman, which entitles him to the uſe of pens, ink, paper, &c. again, at the bookſeller's the ſubſcription is the ſame, for which you have the uſe of whatever book you pleaſe to read at your lodgings; and here alſo, is a book open for the ladies. The Library conſiſts of ſeveral thouſand volumes,

volumes, of the moſt entertaining kind; and every new publication is added immediately as publiſhed, for the uſe of ſubſcribers: the newſpapers are alſo taken in daily.

The band of muſic likewiſe, which plays three times a day in the orcheſtra on the public walks, and at the balls, is ſupported by ſubſcription, for which a book is open in the great rooms.

Thus ſubſcriptions are ended till the clergyman's book is opened, and you may then freely engage in all the amuſements of the place.

As each of theſe places depend, for the chief part, on the ſubſcription, is is cuſtomary for every one in a family to give their reſpective names to each.

The company uſually appear on the parade between ſeven and eight o'clock in the morning, to drink the water, and practice the neceſſary exerciſe of walking, which is ſufficient amuſement for an hour or two; they then return to their lodgings to breakfaſt, or elſe aſſemble in parties; and it is cuſtomary frequently for the company in general to breakfaſt

faſt together in the public rooms, or at the coffee-rooms; and ſometimes in fine weather, under the trees upon the open Walk, attended with muſic the whole time.

After breakfaſt, it is faſhionable to attend morning ſervice in the chapel, to take an airing in coaches, or on horſeback, to aſſemble at the billiard table, to paſs the time in rural walks, to aſſociate in the bookſeller's ſhop, there to collect the harmleſs ſatire, or the panegyric of the day, or elſe to ſaunter upon the parade; every one according to his diſpoſition, or the humour which happens to be predominant.

When prayers are ended, the muſic, which had only ceaſed during the time of divine ſervice, ſtrikes up afreſh, and the company thickening upon the walks, divert themſelves with converſations as various as their different ranks and circumſtances; ſo that an attentive liſtener to the ſeveral parties would this moment fancy himſelf at the Royal-Exchange, and the next at the Palace; now at an India factory, or an American plantation.

While

While a great part of the company are thus amuſing the time on the parade, others are no leſs agreeably employed at the milleners, the jewellers, toy-ſhops, &c. where little rafflings are carried on till the important call of dinner obliges the different parties to diſperſe.

Dinner finiſhed, the band of muſic again aſcends the orcheſtra, and you once more behold the company return in crouds to the walk; but now the morning dreſs is laid aſide, and all appear in full and ſplendid attire, the higheſt finiſhings of art and expence being added to the prevailing power of beauty, the inſinuation of polite addreſs, and dignity of rank and talents.

In theſe advantageous circumſtances, the general deſire of all is to ſee and be ſeen, till the hour of tea-drinking, when they aſſemble together, as in the morning, commonly at the public rooms, or at the coffee-houſe rooms.

This over, cards ſucceed in the great rooms, which are ſupplied with a proper number of tables, and all neceſſary accommodations, and where the greateſt order and regularity is obſerved

ſerved that can conſiſt with the liberty of a public place.

Twice in a week there are public balls in the Great Aſſembly Rooms—on *Tueſdays* at the Room on the Walk, and *Fridays* at the Lower Rooms; every other night in the week, (ſundays excepted, when the company in general meet to drink tea at the Great Room on the Walk) are card-aſſemblies at each of the public-rooms alternately.

The Maſter of the Ceremonies to explain more fully the nature of the balls, &c. has publiſhed the following Rules:

RULES

AND

REGULATIONS

Humbly recommended by the

MASTER of the CEREMONIES

TO THE

COMPANY

RESORTING TO

TUNBRIDGE-WELLS,

I. THAT there be Two public Balls every Week, on Tueſdays and Fridays. Ladies to pay 2s. Gentlemen 3s. 6d.

II. To begin with Minuets, and then Country Dances—All reſtrictions in point of dreſs to be aboliſhed, except in regard to thoſe Ladies who intend to dance Minuets, who are requeſted to be properly dreſt for that purpoſe.

III. One Cotillion only, immediately after tea will be danced, and to prevent the time loſt

loſt in the choice of the particular Cotillion, and in practiſing it, the Maſter of the Ceremonies will undertake himſelf to name it, and its figure ſhall be previouſly put up in the Great Rooms, that they may be acquainted with it.

IV. As the cuſtom of dancing, two following dances *only*, with the ſame Lady, at preſent prevails pretty generally, the Maſter of the Ceremonies thinks it proper to eſtabliſh it as a Rule here.

V. The Maſter of the Ceremonies thinks it almoſt needleſs to obſerve, that it is deemed a point of good breeding, for thoſe Ladies who have gone down with the dance to continue in their places, till the reſt have done the ſame.

VI. The Maſter of the Ceremonies deſires the company to come early, that the Balls may begin at the uſual hour of ſeven.

VII. The Maſter of the Ceremonies deſires to have the honour of preſenting himſelf to the company on their arrival, that he may not be wanting in the neceſſary attentions to them.

VIII. The Chapel, being originally built by ſubſcription, is not endowed with any proviſion for an eſtabliſhed Miniſter.—As he depends therefore for his ſupport on the voluntary Contributions of the Company that frequent the place: It is hoped he may rely with confidence for the reward of his labours, on the benevolence of thoſe who reap the benefit of them.

IX. It is humbly requeſted of all perſons who frequent the Rooms to ſubſcribe, to enable the renters of them to defray the many neceſſary and heavy expences attending them.

X. Beſides the Two Rooms, the other general places of Subſcription are the Circulating Library, the Ladies Coffee Room, the Gentleman's Coffee Room, and the Poſt Office.

XI. The Water-dippers at the Spring, who are appointed by the Lord of the Manor, have no allowance, but depend upon what is given them by thoſe who drink the Waters.

XII. The Maſter of the Ceremonies hopes it will not be thought improper for him to recommend to families on leaving the place (having

(having been any time here), to conſider the Waiters of each of the Rooms.—He will not preſume to dictate to public generoſity: Thoſe only therefore who wiſh to be directed in this will receive the neceſſary information, on application to him.

XIII. It has been an old eſtabliſhed cuſtom for every Lady and Gentleman to drop a ſhilling into the Sweeper's Box, and as the poor man and his family, conſtantly attend the Walks, and the Rooms morning and evening, and have no other means of ſubſiſting; it is hoped that none will refuſe to comply with ſo ſmall and equitable a bounty.

The following are the PRICES of CARDS.

COMMERCE with one Pack,		0	8	6	Morning, 7s.
LOO, one Pack 6s. two		0	8	6	
WHIST, two Packs, - - -		0	8	0	Morning, 7s.
PIQUET, or ALL-FOURS,	First Pack -	0	5	0	Each Pack after 3s.
QUADRILLE, - - - - -		0	8	6	Morning, 7s.
QUINZE, ad Libitum from		0	8	6	
LOTTERY one Pack 10, two		0	12	0	

RICHARD TYSON,
Maſter of the Ceremonies.

The

The Maſter of the Ceremonies has Two Balls in the ſeaſon, which are generally very brilliant and full.

Private Balls too are frequently given by people of faſhion in the height of the ſeaſon; and on theſe occaſions elegant ſuppers are generally provided.

Here alſo are frequent concerts, attended by the moſt eminent performers in London, where all thoſe who are happy in a taſte for muſic, may be entertained with the moſt ſkilful performance, at the expence of a crown. Sometimes theſe concerts form a part of the morning amuſement under the name of Concert-breakfaſts, and then the price of tickets ſeldom exceeds three ſhillings and ſix-pence. In theſe concerts, perſons of rank and fortune who have a talent this way, are ſometimes admitted amongſt the performers, and find a pleaſure in joining with the maſters in this delightful ſcience.

Another ſpecies of Tunbridge amuſement conſiſts in parties to the High Rocks, and other romantic ſcenes, with which the whole neighbourhood

bourhood abounds, At theſe places there frequently are public breakfaſts, dinners and tea drinkings, attended with muſic, and every incitement to chearfulneſs.

Excurſions to the noblemens and gentlemens ſeats, the founderies, and many remarkable places in the adjacent country, furniſh another pleaſurable employment of time at Tunbridge Wells. There are, indeed, ſeveral capital houſes in the neighbourhood of this place, which, through the polite hoſpitality of the worthy proprietors, are always open to the inſpection of the curious; and there are many pleaſant villages, and agreeable proſpects in the ways leading to them, that will not fail to attract the diſtinguiſhing obſerver.

To the article of amuſements may I add thoſe of a higher nature, equally calculated for the diverſion and improvement of the ſerious and reflecting part of the company.

The Circulating Library, and the Coffee Houſe, as mentioned before, (although ſome particular amuſements predominant there among others, were then omitted) are places where the ſocial virtues reign triumphant over prejudice

prejudice and prepoſſeſſion. The eaſy freedom, and chearful gaiety, ariſing from the nature of a public place, extends its influence over them, and every ſpecies of party ſpirit is intirely ſtripped of thoſe malignant qualities which render it ſo deſtructive of the peace of mankind. Here divines and philoſophers, deiſts and chriſtians, wigs and tories, Scotch and Engliſh, debate without anger, diſpute with politeneſs, and judge with candour: while every one has an opportunity to diſplay the excellency of his taſte, the depth of his erudition, and the greatneſs of his capacity, in all kinds of polite literature, and in every branch of human knowledge.

The bookſeller's ſhop has indeed an advantage over the coffee-houſe, becauſe there the ladies are admitted; and, like ſo many living ſtars, ſhine in the greateſt ſplendor, while they evidence, that Britiſh beauties are no leſs ſuperior to their ſex throughout the world, in the ornaments of the underſtanding, than they are univerſally allowed to be in the external graces of the body—

—*faſhioned*

——faſhion'd all to harmony alone,
They know to ſeize the captivated ſoul,
In rapture warbled from love-breathing lips;
To teach the lute to languiſh; with ſmooth ſtep,
Diſcloſing motion in its every charm,
To ſwim along, and ſwell the mazy dance;
To train the foliage o'er the ſnowy lawn:
To guide the pencil, turn the tuneful page;
To lend new flavour to the fruitful year,
To heighten nature's dainties; in their race
To rear their graces into ſecond life;
To give ſociety its higheſt taſte;
Well-order'd home man's beſt delight to make;
And by ſubmiſſive wiſdom, modeſt ſkill,
With every gentle care-eluding art
To raiſe the virtues, animate the bliſs,
And ſweeten all the toils of human life.

THOMSON'S AUTUMN.

As the Seaſons are now of much longer duration than formerly—ſome families come as early as March or April, and many continue here till the latter end of November, particularly thoſe who come merely for the benefit of health, the water being reckoned equally in perfection in cold weather, provided it be dry; and the air, though ſharp, as pure and healthy as in ſummer. It may be neceſſary to obſerve, that there are two regular apothecaries high in repute, who conſtantly reſide in the place, having analyſed the waters, and ſtudied the efficacy of them in every degree. A regular phyſician, or two, from London alſo conſtantly attends during the ſeaſon, whoſe abilities are known to be ſuch that invalids may repair hither, without waiting to procure a preſcription from their own phyſician.

THE

THE ANCIENT and PRESENT STATE OF THE MOST REMARKABLE PLACES, IN THE ENVIRONS OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS;

Comprehending a CIRCUIT of about Sixteen Miles round the Place.

TO neglect to give some account of the antiquities of those remarkable places in the neighbourhood of Tunbridge Wells, which attract the notice of the company residing there, would be to leave this work extremely incomplete; I have therefore endeavoured to obtain all the information that can be procured on this head, and chearfully submit the result of those enquiries to the public.

In ranging the places it will be very difficult to fall into any regular method, I therefore

muſt not pretend to connect one place with the other; but, in perambulating the country round the Wells, ſurvey the houſes, the villages, and towns, without order as they lie.

Let then our firſt view be of the pariſh in which the ſprings ariſe, which is

SPELDHURST.

The pariſh of Speldhurſt, or the Learned Wood (for ſuch is the original meaning of this word, which was anciently wrote Spelherſt) is a large pariſh in the dioceſe of Rocheſter, which was in former time of conſiderable note, on account of the many eminent families that dwelt therein.

The country is very hilly, with deep valleys, and a great number of bare craggy rocks jutting out in different places. It is watered by a principal branch of the river Medway, which has here acquired ſtrength enough to ſupply a conſiderable foundery *, and to work ſeveral mills

* There are ſeveral founderies within a few miles of the Wells, where cannon of the largeſt dimenſions have been made; and very great quantities of iron ore have been dug up at abundance of places in this country.---

mills in its courſe. The church is a very ancient ſtructure about three miles from the Wells, dedicated to St. Mary, and the living is valued in the King's books at 15l. 5s. In the chancel of this church there is a very ancient monument to the memory of Sir Edmund Waller and his Lady, with long poetical epitaphs, but no date to inform the reader when they died: and on the floor, near the entrance of the chancel, is a grave ſtone with a braſs effigy, and an inſcription in old text characters, to the memory of William Waller, Eſq; who died in 1555. The pariſhioners are exempted from petty tythes, and they alſo plead the privilege of having no ſoldiers quartered upon them except on a march; but, as the charter is loſt, they are not very ſtrenuous in aſſerting this antiquated claim.

Among the places of note in ancient time in this pariſh were EWHURST, FERBIES, and RUSTHALL,

This has tended greatly to enhance the price of wood, on account of the vaſt quantities converted into charcoal; but, as pit-coal is now brought up Tunbridge river in great plenty, this is not ſo much felt by the inhabitants as it otherwiſe would be.

RUSTHALL, which now are all ſunk into oblivion; as is alſo HOLLANDS, a manſion that was ſo called from an ancient and noble family of that name, who were great benefactors to the pariſh church, and came to this eſtate and the Earldom of the county, by a marriage with Joanna the Fair, the daughter of Edmund of Woodſtock, Earl of Kent, and uncle to Edward the Third.

This Joanna of Kent appears to have been a woman of great beauty, and diſtinguiſhed gallantry; and was that famous lady to whom it is ſaid, we owe the firſt inſtitution of the noble Order of the Garter. In the moſt early part of her life, ſhe was contracted to Sir Thomas Holland *, but while he was engaged abroad in the wars of France, where he performed the moſt ſignal ſervices to his king and country, ſhe was prevailed upon to wed the young Earl of Saliſbury. Soon after this, being at Werk Caſtle in Northumberland, ſhe ordered her garriſon to interrupt the rear of the King of Scotland's army in his retreat from an irruption which he had made into England, which ſo incenſed him, that he inſtantly turned back

* Dugdale's Baronage, Vol. II. p. 74.

back again and beſieged her at the head of ſixty thouſand men. The young lady, but little frightened at the number of his forces, ſeveral times bravely repulſed the king when he attempted to ſtorm the caſtle, and kept his whole army at bay, till he, hearing that Edward the Third was haſtening to her relief, thought proper to purſue his firſt intention, and return as faſt as poſſible into his own country. This ſeaſonable retreat probably ſaved him and his army from deſtruction, as the magnanimous Edward came to the caſtle, in a few hours after the Scot had quitted it; where finding no enemy to encounter with, he paid a viſit to the Counteſs, and behaved with a gallantry which has given occaſion to ſome hiſtorians to aſſert, that he fell paſſionately in love with Joanna; but it does not appear that this ſtory, or the many defamatory tales ariſing from it, have any foundation in fact.

When Sir Thomas Holland returned to England he demanded his wife of the Earl of Saliſbury, and upon the Earl's refuſing to reſign her, preſented a petition to the Pope, repreſenting his pre-contract with the lady, and vouching that he had enjoyed her; whereupon the

the Pope gave ſentence in his favour, and ſhe was accordingly divorced from the Earl of Saliſbury, and married to Sir Thomas Holland: who afterwards built the manſion of which we are now writing, and became earl of Kent: but he lived not long to enjoy this new honour. At his death he left one ſon *, and his counteſs a rich young widow, in which ſtate however ſhe continued but one year, when, notwithſtanding her former miſconduct, this celebrated lady was married to Edward the Black Prince!

This manſion, as was before ſaid, has ſhared the fate of many other noble buildings, and is now ſo entirely loſt, that few can point out the ground on which it ſtood.

* This young nobleman attended his father-in-law, Prince Edward, into Spain, and very greatly diſtinguiſhed himſelf at the battle of Nejara; where the Black Prince overthrew Henry, the uſurper of Caſtile, and replaced the tyrant Peter on the throne.

Dugdale's Baronage, Vol. II. p. 75.

GROOM-

GROOMBRIDGE.

This following Inſcription is on an Altar Tomb-Stone, in Groombridge Chapel-Yard.

To the Memory
Of WILLIAM CAMFIELD, Gent.
Who, from a very ruinous Condition,
generouſly repaired and beautified
this CHAPEL and STREET;
Of an hoſpitable, and ſocial Diſpoſition,
charitable to the Poor, benevolent to his Friends,
and the careful and provident Parent
of a numerous Offspring.
He died November the 2nd, 1781,
In the 81ſt year of his Age.

Here likewiſe are interred,
the Remains of his beloved Wife,
MRS. MARY CAMFIELD;
who departed this Life
the 3rd of April, 1774.

Monumental Inſcriptions AT *SPELDHURST.*

In the Chancel of the above Church, there is a fair Monument erected to the Memory of Sir WALTER WALLER, and ANNA, his Lady, without Date; but it appears by the Pariſh Regiſter, that Sir WALTER WALLER, Knt. was buried 1599.—There are alſo two Epitaphs in Verſe on this Monument, *epigrammatical*, *acroſtical*, and *anagrammatical* according to the Taſte of thoſe Times.

Sir *Walter Waller's* Epitaph.

Ide prayſe thy valour, but Mars 'gins to frown;
He fears when Sol's aloft, that Mars muſt downe.
Ide prayſe thy fourme, but Venus cries amayne
Sir Walter Waller will my Adan ſtayne.
Ide prayſe thy learning, but Minerva cries;
Then Athen's fame muſt creepe when Waller flyes.
Aſſiſt us, England, in our doulful ſong,
When ſuch limbs fade, thy flouriſh laſt's not long;
Earth hath his earth, which doth his corpſe inroule,
Angells ſing requiems to his bleſſed ſoule.

Lady *Anna Waller's* Epitaph.

All worthy eyes read this, that hither come,
Never-decaying virtue fills this tomb;
Never enough to be lamented here,
As long as women-kind are worth a tear.
Within this weeping ſtone lyes Lady Waller,
All that will knowe her more a ſaint will call her;
Life ſo directed her whileſt lyving here,
Leavell'd ſo ſtraight to God, in love and feare;
Even ſo good, that turne hir name and ſee,
Reddy to crowne that life a LAWREL tree.

Oppoſite to this Monument, is another handſome one of fine marble, to the memory of JAMES LONG, Eſq. of St. Mary-le-bone, Middleſex, 1714.—This Mr. LONG firſt built the COLD-BATH, at *Tunbridge-Wells*, with a good Houſe, and fine gardens, then adjoining.

Here under depoſited,
lye the Remains of
JAMES LONG, Gent.
late of St. Mary La-bone,
in the County of Middleſex.

Who,
(though he died a Bachelor)
proved a moſt indulgent Father,
to many of his Nephews and Neices
whilſt he lived:
And at his Death,
parted his Fortune amongſt them.

In Gratitude
to whoſe Memory,
his Neice BEATRIX LONG, Spinſter,
cauſed this Monument to be erected.
Obiit 22 Martis,
Anno 1714.
Ætatis 70.

Underneath alſo,
lyes interred the Body of the ſaid
BEATRIX LONG,
Who,
having ſpent a Life of Goodneſs,
and exemplary Piety,
choſe to reſt in Peace,
till the Morning of the Reſurrection
in this Place.

Willing,
that the Eſteem and Affection
ſhe bore to her good Uncle
when alive,
might be followed
by a Union of their Aſhes after Death.
She died at 45 Years of Age,
May 2nd, 1726.

On the South-ſide of the Chancel, in the Church-Yard, is the following Inſcription, on an Altar Tomb-Stone.

Hic requieſcit
Quod mortale fuit
D. JOHANNIS ARCHER,
viri vere reverendi,
ob ſingularem vitæ modeſtiam,
Illœſam morum integritatem,
Sinceram erga Deum religionem,
liberalem in omnes benevolontiam,
et veritatis Evangelicæ
(apud aquas Tunbridgienſes
Inagro Cantiano)
Fideliſſimam prædicationem
Qui, dui oppreſſus viſcerum doloribus,
Quos fortiter et patienter tulit,
Requiem ſuturi ſeculi ardenter expetivit,
Quam tandem ſummo gaudio conſecutus eſt;
Virtutum rariſſimarum
Triſte nobis deſiderium relinquens,
Nat. Martii 15, A. D. 1675,
Den. Sep. 23, 1733.

Hic jacet etiam
ANNA ARCHER,
Fideliſſima Conjux ejus,
obiit July 14, 1750, ætatis ſuæ 78.

Under-

Underneath, upon the before-mentioned Tomb, is the following Inſcription.

Here are depoſited the Remains of
The Rev. WILLIAM JOHNSON, A.M.
Twenty-four Years Paſtor of the
Diſſenting Congregation Meeting,
on Mount-Sion, Tunbridge-Wells.

His Character,
diſtinguiſhed by Learning, Piety,
Benevolence and Uſefulneſs,
will cauſe his Death to be
long lamented by his Family,
his Flock, and his numerous Friends.

He departed this Life
in the believing Hope of a better,
On March 2, 1776;
in the ſixty-ſecond year of his Age.

Quis deſideris ſit pudor, aut modus tam chari capitis?

Near

Near the Church-Gate, on a Grave-Stone, is the following remarkable Inſcription.

Here lieth the Body of
WILLIAM MARTIN,
Son of William and Elizabeth Martin,
who was killed the 10th of July, 1728,
(in the Eighth Year of his Age)
by a fatal Flaſh of Lightning,
as he was going to his Home,
from the Worſhip of the living God.

Bleſt child, whoſe kind Creator ſummon'd hence,
E'er ſin defil'd his native innocence!
So as Elijah, he, in lambent fire
Mounted the ſkies, and join'd the Angelic choir!

GROOM.

At the upper End of the Chancel, on the East-Wall, near to Sir Walter Waller's *Monument, is fixed a small Marble Tablet, with the following Inscription.*

To the Memory
of Mr. EDWARD ONELY, an Army Surgeon,
who died abroad, much esteemed & beloved
for his great Care and Tenderness
of the Sick and wounded Soldiers.

This Marble Tablet
was placed here, by his affectionate & mournful
Brother, the Rev. Mr. R. ONELY, A.M.
late of *Christ-Church* College, *Cambridge*,
and Rector of this Parish, and of *Ashurst*;
in the Year 1786.

And formerly Domestic Chaplain
to the Right Hon. Allen, Earl of Bathurst.
He died March 31, 1787; aged 64 Years.

Fratri posuit, et Sibi.

It is observable, that at the Top of this little monumental Stone is engraved a Phœnix—not altogether to be considered as the Crest of the Family

Family Arms, but an Alluſion likewiſe to the popular Opinion that prevailed through the Eaſtern Countries, in the Apoſtolic Ages, that the Phœnix, though a fabulous Bird, generally ſuppoſed to revive from its own Aſhes, was always looked on as an emblem of the Reſurrection;—and this appears from St. Clement's famous Epiſtle to the Corinthians, which is tranſlated out of Greek, into Engliſh, by Dr. Wake, late Archbiſhop of Canterbury;—an Epiſtle as his Grace obſerves, ſo highly eſteemed by the Primitive Church, that we are told, (by Euſebius) that it was wont to be publickly read in the Aſſemblies of it.

As this Paſſage in that Apoſtolic Epiſtle, is ſo very a remarkable one, and but little known, at leaſt to few but the Learned, it is here tranſcribed for general Information and Peruſal, from the Archbiſhop's Engliſh Tranſlation of the Original.

St. Clement, after having illuſtrated the Doctrine of a Reſurrection by ſeveral apt Similitudes, at laſt ſays—" Let us conſider that " wonderful Type of the Reſurrection, which " is ſeen in the Eaſtern Countries (*i. e.*) Arabia.

" There

" There is a certain Bird called a Phœnix, " of this there is never but *one* at a Time; and " that lives *five hundred* Years. And when " the Time of its Diſſolution draws near, that " it muſt die, it makes itſelf a Neſt of Frankin- " cenſes, and Myrrhs, and other Spices, into " which, when its Time is fulfilled, it enters " and dies: but its Fleſh putrifying, breeds a " certain Worm; which, being nouriſhed with " the Juice of the dead Bird, brings forth " Feathers, and when it is grown to a perfect " State, it takes up the Neſt in which the Bones " of the Parent lay, and carries it from Arabia " into Æypt, to a City called *Heliopolis*; and " flying in open Air in the Sight of all Men, " lays it upon the Altar of the Sun, and ſo re- " turns from whence it came. The Prieſts " then ſearch into the Records of the Time, " and find that it returned preciſely at the End " of five hundred Years.

" And ſhall we then, think it to be any very " great and ſtrange Thing," ſays St. Clement, " for the Lord of all to raiſe up thoſe that re- " ligiouſly ſerve him, in the Aſſurance of a " good Faith, when even by a Bird he ſhews

" us

" us the Greatneſs *of his Power* to *fulfil* his " Promiſe?"—For he ſays in a certain Place,—*Thou, ſhalt raiſe me up, and I ſhall confeſs unto Thee.*—And again—*I laid me down and ſlept, and awaked, becauſe thou art with me,* Pſ. iii. 5. And again, Job ſays—*Thou ſhalt raiſe up this Fleſh of mine, that has ſuffered all theſe Things.* Job xix.—26.

Thus far St. Clement, whom St. Paul mentions, not only as his Fellow-Labourer in the Goſpel, but as one whoſe Name is written in the Book of Life.—Phil. iv.—3.

What hath contributed, (ſays another learned Tranſlator of this Epiſtle) in the later Ages, to invalidate its Scriptural Authority, is no doubt the fabulous Story of the Phœnix, which St. Clement only introduces by Way of Similitude to the Doctrine of the Reſurrection from the Dead,—It was univerſally believed in thoſe Times, that there was ſuch a Bird, juſt as it was believed.

GROOM-

GROOMBRIDGE.

Groombridge is the place of firſt note in this pariſh, has fared better, and, though deprived of much of it's ancient ſplendor, ſtill remains in being. This place was anciently called Gromenbridge, from a noble Saxon, named Gromen, it's original proprietor, from whom it paſſed through ſeveral noble families, to Henry de Cobham *, who, in the twelfth year of Edward the Firſt, performed knight's ſervice againſt the Welch, and in reward for his valiant conduct had, two years afterwards, a grant for eſtabliſhing a weekly market and fair of two days in the year, beginning on the vigil of St. John-port-latin, at Groombridge. The market is now entirely loſt, and the fair is kept on that Saint's day, which is the 6th of May, and on the 26th of November.

From the Cobhams this eſtate went to the Clinton's, and it continued in that family till

* Henry de Cobham, nephew to this Henry, was appointed Governor of Tunbridge Caſtle in 1332, by Edward the Second.

it was purchaſed by Sir Richard Waller, a brave warrior under King Henry the Fifth. Sir Richard followed the King into France, and very highly diſtinguiſhed himſelf at the ever-famous battle of Agincourt, from whence he brought the Duke of Orleans priſoner, and was allowed by Henry to keep him in honourable confinement at Groombridge. This prince continued twenty-five years in captivity*, paid at laſt 400,000 crowns for his ranſom, and, from a principal of gratitude for the hoſpitality of his generous keeper, rebuilt the manſion-houſe, and repaired and beautified the pariſh church, which to this day bears his arms over the portal; he alſo aſſigned to Sir Richard, and his heirs for ever, as a perpetual memorial of his merits, this honourable addition to his family arms, namely the eſcutcheon of France ſuſpended upon an oak, with this motto affixed to it,

"HI FRUCTUS VIRTUTIS."

Groombridge, having continued ſeveral generations in the family of Sir Richard Waller, was

* Baronetage, Edition 1720, Vol. II. p. 289.

was at length paſſed away to Thomas Sackville, Earl of Dorſet, and from him to John Packer, Eſq. Clerk of the Privy Seal to that unfortunate monarch Charles I. This gentleman built a chapel of eaſe to the pariſh church in his own park, which he dedicated to St. John; and, ſometime after his deceaſe, the eſtate became involved in a Chancery ſuit, in which it continued a great many years, till at length it was purchaſed out of that Court by Mr. William Camfield, father of the preſent proprietors, who with indefatigable application and great expence, retrieved the manſion-houſe, the chapel, and the whole village, from the moſt ruinous condition that can well be conceived; and made it an agreeable, and thriving place, in which his generous public ſpirit muſt ever be remembered with gratitude and reſpect*.

ASHURST.

Aſhurſt, or the Wood of Aſhes, is a little obſcure village about four miles from the Wells, which antiently was celebrated on account of an

* There was a Chauntry founded at Groombridge, in the 38th year of Henry III. by William Ruſſel and Hawis his wife, as appears by the, "Reg. Roffenſi." Philipot, p. 320.

an extraordinary rood, or crucifix, which the ſuperſtitious people, in the days of popery, were made to believe continued growing in the hair and nails, and even in it's bodily ſtature, as if it had been alive. This wonderful image was alſo ſuppoſed to work innumerable miracles, and the poor deluded multitude came in ſuch throngs to make their offerings to it, that the wily incumbent, who could hardly ſubſiſt before, ſoon grew fat upon his benefice.

CHAFFORD,

About four miles from Tunbridge-Wells, an antient manor and ſeat, lately belonging to Sir George Rivers, Bart. Here was a good houſe and park, with the river Medway running through it. This family were created Baronets in the year 1621; the late Sir George married Dorothea, daughter and co-heir of Sir William Beverſham, of Holbrook-Hall, in the county of Suffolk, Knt. by whom he had two ſons, George and Beverſham, who dying without iſſue, the title came to the preſent Sir Peter, who has taken the name of Gay.

This ſeat is now pulled down and a good farm houſe built in its ſtead; there are ſtill ſome

ſome remains of the ſtables and gardens; and the park is turned into a farm, which at preſent belongs to Mr. Saxby, in Suſſex.

COWDEN.

Cowden is an obſcure village about three miles farther weſtward, which antiently was appropriated to the College of Lingfield, in Surry; till by the general diſſolution it fell into the hands of K. Henry VIII. who granted it to the Earl of Arundel, from whom it paſſed by ſale into private hands. There formerly was one or two good manſions in this pariſh; but at preſent the place is not remarkable for any thing, the church being ſmall and mean, and only worth mentioning on account of its handſome ſpire*.

GREAT BOUNDS.

Great Bounds, ſituated in the pariſh of Bidborough, about three miles north of Tunbridge Wells, was ſo called, becauſe it was the extreme boundary of the lowy or liberty of Tunbridge. This is a very neat Gothic building, which antiently had the ſame proprietors as Tunbridge Caſtle, till Thomas, Lord Berkeley, conveyed

* Harris's Hiſtory of Kent.

conveyed it away to Sir Thomas Smythe, in the beginning of the reign of K. James I. from which time it has continued in that family, and is now poſſeſſed by Lady Smythe, relict of Sir Sidney Stafford Smythe, Kt. one of the Barons of the Exchequer, and great grandſon to the famous Lady Dorothy Sidney.

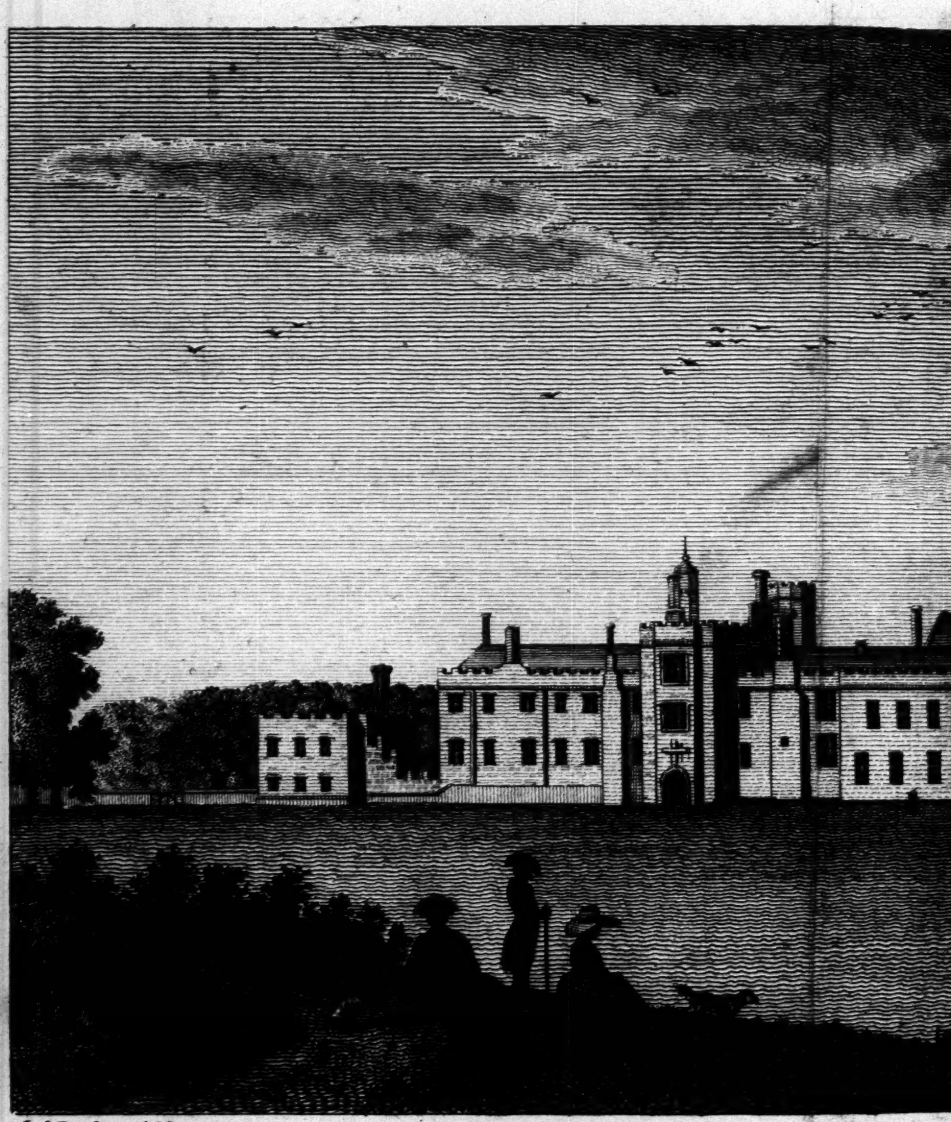
This houſe enjoys one of the richeſt and moſt comprehenſive proſpects, a view of the ſea only excepted, that is perhaps to be met with in the kingdom.

PENSHURST*.

Penſhurſt, or the Head of the Wood, is a pleaſant little town, about five miles north-weſt

* This name denotes that the place was raiſed in a woody country, and gave occaſion to Waller gallantly to aſcribe to his Sachariſſa the power of inſtantaneouſly reducing the wild luxuriance of nature to regularity and order.------

She - - - - - - - - - - - - - "gave
"The peace and glory which theſe alleys have;
"Embroider'd ſo with flowers where ſhe ſtood,
"That it became a garden of a wood-----
"Her preſence has ſuch more than human grace,
"That it can civilize the rudeſt place:
"And beauty too, and order can impart,
"Where nature ne'er intended it, nor art."



Ja.s Lambert del.t

PENHURST-PLACE, *in Kent, former*

Published by J. Sprang



H. Ashby sculp.t

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y J. Sprange, Bookseller, Tunbridge Wells.

BRITIS
23MY
MUSE

weſt of Tunbridge Wells. This town has the advantage of being watered by the Medway, which is here grown a conſiderable ſtream, that might eaſily be made navigable from Tunbridge town, if the proprietors of that navigation were diſpoſed to put the act * in force, by which they are empowered to carry on and complete the navigation of this uſeful river as far as Foreſt-Row in Suſſex. A work which, if it was well executed, would moſt certainly be of the greateſt advantage to the public in general, and to Penſhurſt, and all this part of the country in particular.

Adjoining to the town is Penſhurſt Place, a noble and very ancient manſion, which, in the time of William the Conqueror, was poſſeſſed by a family named Pencheſter. In this family it continued till about the reign of Edward the Second, when Sir Stephen de Pencheſter †, who was one of the Barons of the Cinque Ports, and Conſtable of Dover-Caſtle, died without male iſſue, upon which it paſſed by Alice, his daughter and co-heireſs, to the Lord Columbers; and her ſon Thomas de Columbers

* Anno 13. Georgii II. † Philipot, p. 270.

bers paſſed it by deed into the Pulteney family; from whence it came to Sir John Devereux, Knight of the Garter, Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, Conſtable of Dover Caſtle, and Steward of the Houſhold to Richard the Second. This gentleman obtained licence from the King to fortify and embattle this manſion-houſe, which at his death went with his daughter to Walter Lord Fitzwater, and thus paſſed through ſeveral of the moſt noble and eminent families in the kingdom, till at length it was forfeited to the Crown by the attainder of Sir Ralph Vane, who with the Duke of Somerſet and others, was ſacrificed to the vain ambition of the Duke of Northumberland, in the fourth year of Edward the Sixth. This eſtate was then given by that amiable young monarch to Sir William Sidney *; in whoſe diſtinguiſhed family it has ever ſince continued.

Sir William died on the 10th of February, 1553, and left this eſtate, of which he had been about ten months in poſſeſſion, to his ſon and heir Sir Henry Sidney †, who from his infancy

* Collin's Mem. of the Sidney's, p. 81.

† Ib. p. 82.

infancy had been brought up with Edward the Sixth, and on that King's acceſſion to the crown was eſteemed for his virtues, comelineſs, gallantry, and ſpirit, one of the greateſt ornaments of the court.

Sir Henry * had the firſt place in the friendſhip of this virtuous monarch, who made him one of the Gentlemen of the Privy Chamber, and took ſuch delight in his Company, that he but ſeldom granted him leave of abſence, and at laſt died in his arms at Greenwich. Upon this melancholy occaſion he retired to Penſhurſt to indulge his grief, and thus eſcaped all the calamities which befel his father-in-law, the Duke of Northumberland, on the acceſſion of Queen Mary.

After King Edward's death, Sir Henry Sidney was honourably diſtinguiſhed by Queen Mary; and by Queen Elizabeth he was appointed Lord Preſident of the Marches of Wales. He was alſo four times Lord Chief Juſtice of Ireland, and three times Deputy Governor of that kingdom, at each of which

 times

* Collin's Mem. of the Sidney's, p. 84.

times he performed ſome ſignal ſervices to his country, in repreſſing the ſeveral rebellions of the O'Neal's, the Butler's, and the Clanrickards; and he alſo executed many public works in that iſland, which have deſervedly rendered his name immortal among the Iriſh.

He was made a Knight of the moſt noble Order of the Garter, and received ſome diſtinguiſhing marks of honour from every ſovereign that reigned in England in his time. He made very great additions to his ſeat at Penſhurſt, and built the tower * at the entrance as a monument of gratitude to that generous monarch from whom his father obtained the eſtate; and dying on the 5th of May, 1586 at Ludlow, was brought in great funeral pomp to Penſhurſt, and interred in the chancel in that church †.

Sir Henry married the Duke of Northumberland's eldeſt daughter, by whom he had ſeveral children. At his deceaſe this eſtate deſcended to his eldeſt ſon, the ever-memorable Sir Philip Sidney, who was at that time one of the

* Vide the Inſcription over the gate.

† Dug. Bar. Vol. II. p. 410. Collins, p. 96.

the moſt eminent characters in the kingdom; being univerſally diſtinguiſhed as the pride of his family, the boaſt of his country, and the great hope of his age.

Sir Philip was born on the 29th of November, 1554, and named after the King of Spain, who ſtood god-father for him. He being the firſt-born of his father, and the firſt of that family who had received their birth at Penſhurſt*, a tree was planted in the park upon that occaſion, which is alluded to by the celebrated Waller in the following manner—

Go, boy, and carve this paſſion on the bark
Of yonder tree, which ſtands the ſacred mark
Of noble Sidney's birth: when ſuch benign,
Such more than mortal making ſtars did ſhine,
That there it cannot but for ever prove
The monument and pledge of humble love.

Ben Johnſon alſo has alluded to this tree, in his FOREST *.

* From a paſſage in this poem it appears that King James the Firſt, and his ſon, probably Prince Henry, in one of their hunting matches paid an unexpected

Thou haſt thy walks for health as well as ſport?
Thy mount to which the Driads do reſort,
Where Pan and Bacchus their high feaſts have made,
Beneath the broad beech and the cheſnut ſhade;
That tall tree too which of a nut was ſet
At his great birth where all the Muſes met.

The charming thought at the concluſion of the laſt line, is ſo beautifully and poetically detailed in a little poem called PENSHURST, written by Mr. E. Coventry, that I cannot refrain tranſcribing it.

What genius points to yonder oak?
What rapture does my ſoul provoke?
Here let me hang a garland high,
There let my muſe her accents try;
Be there my earlieſt homage paid,
Be there my lateſt vigils made:
For thou was planted in the earth
The day that ſhone on Sidney's birth.

That

viſit to the Earl of Leiceſter at Penſhuſt; from which event Ben Johnſon takes occaſion to compliment Lady Leiceſter upon her œconomy and management, in a manner that does honour to her memory.

That happy time, that glorious day,
The Muſes came in concert gay;
With harps in tune, and ready ſong,
The jolly chorus tript along;
In honour of th' auſpicious morn,
To hail the infant genius born:
Next came the Fauns in order meet,
The Satyrs next with cloven feet,
The Dryads ſwift that roam the woods,
The Naiads green that ſwim the floods;
Sylvanus left his ſilent cave,
Medway came dropping from the wave;
Vertumnus led his bluſhing ſpouſe,
And Ceres ſhook her wheaten brows,
And Mars with milder look was there,
And laughing Venus grac'd the rear.
They join'd their hands in feſtive dance,
And bade the ſmiling babe advance;
Each gave a gift; Sylvanus laſt
Ordain'd when all the pomp was paſt,
Memorial meet, a tree to grow
Which might to future ages ſhow,
That, on ſelect occaſion rare,
A troop of Gods aſſembled there:
The Naiads water'd all the ground,
And Flora twin'd a wood-bine round:

The tree ſprung faſt in hallow'd earth
Co-eval with the illuſtrious birth.

Collins * informs his readers that this tree was remaining in the Park in his time, and called Bear's-Oak; but it does not appear that there is now any well aſcertained tradition in the family relating to it, ſo periſhing are temporary memorials, while his own immortal deeds ſhall tranſmit his name with applauſe down to the lateſt poſterity.

Sir Philip's noble and generous diſpoſition, his love of the arts, the encouragement that he gave to men of learning and genius †, and the eſteem in which he was univerſally held throughout all the courts of Europe, are ſo generally known that it muſt be wholly unneceſſary to mention them here; but the laſt action of his life ſo ſtrongly paints the native and unconquerable goodneſs of his heart, that it would be doing myſelf the utmoſt violence to forbear relating it. He was engaged at the battle of Zutphen § which was very ſtoutly fought

* Collins, p. 98. † Guthrie, Vol. III. p. 580.
§ Collins, p. 105---108.

fought, the Engliſh ſeveral times forcing the entrenchments of the enemy, though at laſt their general, the Earl of Leiceſter, thought proper to leave the Spaniards in poſſeſſion of the field; and on this occaſion Sir Philip performed ſuch feats of valour, as gives credibility to the moſt ſhining actions of the braveſt hero in his Arcadia *. He was from the firſt diſtinguiſhed in the thickeſt of the battle, and continued to fight with unremitting ardour, till being mortally wounded in the thigh, he was obliged to be carried from the field. The loſs of blood, and exceſs of pain, made him thirſty, and drink was preſently brought him, but, as he was lifting up the bottle to his head, he ſaw a wounded ſoldier caſt his wiſhful eyes towards it, upon which, pulling it untaſted from his mouth, he gave it to the poor fellow with theſe words—*Thy neceſſity is yet greater than mine!*

In

* It is ſuppoſed that Sir Philip amuſed himſelf in writing this celebrated romance during his receſs from public buſineſs, in the twenty-ſixth year of his age, when he retired from court on account of Queen Elizabeth's partiality in favour of the Earl of Oxford, with whom he had a diſpute in which the Queen interfered.

In this happy diſpoſition of mind, this unſhaken fortitude of ſoul, he continued the following ſixteen days, and then, in the thirty-fifth year of his age, after living the life of a ſoldier, he died the death of a chriſtian; thus was loſt to the world a hero whom his contemporaries could never mention without admiration, and whoſe memory will ever be revered while the love of arts and arms ſhall remain among men.

By Sir Philip's death this eſtate deſcended to his brother, Sir Robert Sidney, who was created Lord Sidney of Penſhurſt in the firſt year of James the Firſt, and ſoon after obtained the title of Viſcount Liſle, which title had been in his mother's family from the time of King John. In the fourteenth of James's reign Lord Liſle was inveſted with the Order of the Garter, and in the ſixteenth dignified with the title of Earl of Leiceſter *.

In 1649 † two of King Charles's children, the Duke of Glouceſter, and the Princeſs Elizabeth, were ſent by the Parliament to Penſhurſt-houſe, to be placed under the care of

* Collins. † Ibid, p. 132.

of the Counteſs of Leiceſter, and they continued here about one year. There are yet remaining in the houſe two pictures of the Duke of Glouceſter, one of them with a black behind him in the royal livery.

Penſhurſt is alſo remarkable for being the habitation of the celebrated Lady Dorothy Sidney, whom Waller has immortalized under the name of Sachariſſa. It is not certain that this beautiful lady was born in this manſion, as her name is not inſerted in the pariſh regiſter: but it is unqueſtionable that ſhe here, in the full bloom and luſtre of her charms, received the incenſe of her adorers, and amongſt the reſt inflamed the heart of this ſweet and elegant poet, who is juſtly diſtinguiſhed as the father of Engliſh verſification; but who, though ſucceſsful in poetry, was ſo unfortunate in love, as to be obliged to yield up the object of his adorations to Henry Lord Spencer *, afterwards Earl of Sunderland, and great-grandfather to the late Duke of Marlborough. Lady Dorothy continued ſometime a widow after Lord Sunderland's deceaſe, and then was mar-

* Collins, p. 147.

ried to Robert Smythe, Eſq; of Bounds in Kent, from whom the late Sir Sidney Stafford Smythe was lineally deſcended.

Penſhurſt was alſo the birth-place of that great patriot Algernoon Sidney, whoſe name will ever be dear to his country, and whoſe memory will be cheriſhed by all the true lovers of liberty. An account of his life, his character, and his tragical end, has been ſo lately preſented to the public, together with his works, that it is needleſs to mention it here, though when ſuch noble ſubjects come before us it is with reluctance that we paſs them by.

Thus has Penſhurſt for a great number of years ſucceſſively been the manſion of heroes, patriots, arts, arms, and beauty—few houſes in this kingdom ſhine with ſuch diſtinguiſhed luſtre, and none can have title to a ſuperior place in the annals of fame.

This fine old manſion has, within theſe few years, been repaired and beautified, by the late William, Perry, Eſq; who came to this eſtate by marrying the honourable Elizabeth Sidney

Sidney *, niece to the laſt Earl of Leiceſter, and at preſent ſole ſurvivor of that ancient and moſt illuſtrious family, which is lineally deſcended from Sir William Sidney, who came out of Anjou with Henry the Second.

This houſe contains a noble collection of pictures, and many other curious works of art, ſeveral of which were collected by Mr. Perry, in his travels through Europe; and the ſtate rooms here are moſt ſuperbly furniſhed.

The gardens reach from the houſe to the banks of the Medway, and are large and beautiful. The park is ſaid to be one of the fineſt in the kingdom. It certainly is of great extent, and charmingly diverſified: hills, dales, marſhes, rivers, woods, lawns, and all that can delight a contemplative mind, all that can fire a romantic imagination, is here to be found—

* This lady has a ſon and ſeveral daughters by the late Mr. Perry, who all bear the name of Sidney. She is a co-heireſs of Colonel Thomas Sidney, and her ſiſter, the honourable Mary Sidney, was married to Sir Brownlow Sherrard; but died a few years ſince without iſſue.

Here mighty Dudley * once would rove,
To plan his triumphs in the grove:
There looſer Waller, ever gay,
With Sachariſs in dalliance lay;
And Philip, ſidelong yonder ſpring,
His laviſh carols wont to ſing.

PENSHURST, a Poem.

The pariſh church of Penſhurſt is a good ſubſtantial ſtructure, and in it there are ſeveral antique, elegant, and noble monuments, of the proprietors of Penſhurſt-place, and particularly of the Sidneys; moſt of whom, for above theſe two hundred years paſt, have been buried there.

* Dudley Earl of Leiceſter, Queen Elizabeth's favourite; and uncle by the mother's ſide to Sir Philip Sidney.

A LIST OF THE PORTRAITS AND OTHER CAPITAL PAINTINGS IN *PENSHURST-PLACE.*

In the CLOSET.

LANGUET A. D. 1564, Ætat. ſuæ 51.

Barbara Gamage, Counteſs of Leiceſter.

In the HANGING ROOM.

Robert Earl of Leiceſter, Stadholder of Holland, 1585.

Counteſs of Pembroke, ſiſter to Sir Philip Sidney.

Ambroſe

Ambroſe Dudley, Earl of Warwick.

Robert, Philip and Algernoon Sidney, by Vandyke.

One on each ſide, unknown.

Algernoon Percy, Earl of Northumberland.

Lady Elizabeth Howard, Counteſs of Northumberland, by Vandyke.

Lady Catherine Cecil Viſcounteſs Liſle, daughter of the Earl of Saliſbury, by ditto.

Henry Earl of Holland, by ditto.

Robert Spencer, E. of Sunderland, by ditto.

Robert Earl of Leiceſter, 1632.

Queen Mary.

Sir William Sidney, obit. 1612. He was eldeſt ſon of Robert Lord Sidney, created Earl of Leiceſter, 1618.

William Earl of Pembroke, obit. 1630, by C. Johnſon.

Barbara Gamage, Counteſs of Leiceſter, 1596, and ſix of her children, by M. Garrard.

Lord North, by Vandyke, 1640.

A fine repreſentation of a decayed body in wax, ſaid to be found in the ruins of Herculaneum.

A Venus.

A whole length of the Queen of France.

In the PICTURE CLOSET.

Fiſher, Biſhop of Rocheſter, by Holbeins.
Sir Thomas More, by ditto.
Edward the Sixth, by ditto.
Lady Jane Gray.
Sir John Dudley, Viſcount Liſle, afterwards Duke of Northumberland.
Edward Dudley, Eſq; by Holbeins.
Peter delivered out of Priſon.
A very valuable piece of a Madona and Child, by Raphael de Urbino.
A fine Perſpective View of the inſide of St. Peter's Church at Rome.
A Candlelight Piece of ſome Gamblers, by Teniers.
Trial of a Criminal, by Hemſkirk.
Several Pieces of Fruit.
Ditto of Landſcapes.
Adam and Eve.
Holy Family.
Chaucer's Tale.
Satyr and Nymph.
Ditto, by ———.
Several others.

In

In the GALLERY.

Six Portraits of a Woman with Ale, by Terburg.

Old Parr.

Venus, by Titian.

Venus, Mercury and Cupid, by Corregio.

The Duke of Richmond and his dog.

Philip Earl of Leiceſter, by Sir G. Kneller.

Martin Luther, by Lucas Cranack.

Henry the Eighth, by Holbeins.

The Earl of Surry.

Abraham offering up Iſaac, by Guercins.

John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland. 1545.

Philip Ld Liſle, 1650, E. of Leiceſter, 1678.

Robt. Ld. Sidney, 1603, E. Leiceſter, 1618.

Robert Earl of Leiceſter, 1658, æta. 37.

Algernoon Piercy, Earl of Northumberland, by Vandyke.

Lady Dorothy Sidney, by Lely.

Archbiſhop Abbot.

Sir William Sidney, the firſt poſſeſſor of Penſhurſt.

Algernon Sidney, æta. ſuæ 41, A.D. 1663.

A Madona and Child ſurrounded by Angels, by Andrea del Sarto.

The

The family piece, Mr. and Mrs. Perry and five children, by David Luders, 1752.

Two pieces of fruit by William Sartorius.

A fine Moon-light Piece of Peter delivered out of Prifon.

Lucretia, by Corregio.

A Groom and Horfe, 1725.

A Winter Piece.

Several unknown.

Lady Perry's Room.

Two fine Sea Pieces, by C. Bovmeefter.

Sir Philip Sidney.

Algernoon Sidney.

Mrs. Perry, Mother to Colonel Sidney.

Colonel Sidney.

Counteſs of Pembroke.

Fine Portrait of a Lady.

A Landſcape.

Two ſmall ditto.

A Piece of Flowers.

An exceeding fine Piece of Still-life

A Family Piece, of two Children of the Sidney Family.

Lord Romney.

Lady Sherrard, Mrs. Perry's Siſter.

In the SALOON.

A Front View of Leiceſter Houſe.
A Back View of ditto.
Lady Betty Sidney.
Six Marble Tables, inlaid, brought from Italy.

In a CLOSET, *or* PAGE'S ROOM.

King Charles I. on Horſeback.
The Nine Muſes.
A Marble Statue of Cleopatra, found in the Ruins of Herculaneum.
Lady Gamage, Counteſs of Leiceſter.

TAPESTRY ROOM.

King William and Queen Mary.
Two fine Pieces of Tapeſtry.
A three-quarter length of Mr. Perry.
A ditto of Mrs. Perry.
Lady Mary Dudley, Wife of Sir H. Sidney.
John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland.
Sir Henry Sidney.

Four

Four Pictures unknown.

John, Earl of Leiceſter, Uncle to Mrs. Perry.

Old Parr.

Tranſlation of the Bible.

Sir Charles Egen.

Four Portraits.

One over the Door.

REDLEAF-HOUSE.

Is a ſeat in the pariſh of Penſhurſt, which hath been for ſome deſcents in the family of Spencer.

Gilbert Spencer, Eſq. ſon of Gilbert, ſon of Hugh, ſon of William Spencer, owned this ſeat, and reſided at it in the reigns of King Charles II. and King William III. He died, poſſeſſed of it, May 4, 1709, leaving iſſue four ſons and four daughters.

Gilbert, the eldeſt ſon, dying in his father's life-time, Robert, the ſecond ſon, ſucceeded to this eſtate. He was of Dorking in Surry, and dying without iſſue in 1730, it came to his brother Abraham Spencer, of Penſhurſt, Eſq. who was ſheriff of this county in 1736.

He died unmarried Nov. 11. 1740, aged 60, and lies buried in this church, having by his will deviſed this ſeat, (with the eſtate belonging to it) to Thomas Harvey of Tunbridge, Eſq. who now poſſeſſes it, and reſides there.

SOUTH-

SOUTH-PARK.

A ſmall neat lodge, built by Richard Allnutt, a merchant of London. This place was always known by the name it now bears; it has been a very ancient park, but little remains more than the banks, where the pales formerly ſtood.

This is part of the Leiceſter eſtate, which fell to the lot of Lady Sherrard, when it was divided by act of parliament, between her and Mrs. E. Perry, co-heireſſes, who bequeathed it by will to Lady and Sir George Young, and they in the year 1769, alienated it to Mr. Allnutt. It lies north-weſt from this place, by way of Bidborough eight miles, by way of Groombridge-road, ſix miles.

HALL-PLACE.

Situate at Leigh, about two miles from Penſhurſt. This ſeat and eſtate in the reign of Henry VIII. was conveyed to William Waller, Eſq. from whom it deſcended to his ſon Richard Waller, whoſe widow carried this eſtate to her ſecond huſband, Stephen Towſe, Gent. who

died

died in 1611; ſoon after which it paſſed to Crittenden, in which name it continued to the reign of Charles II. when it was alienated to Harriſon, and continued in that family till about the year 1717, when it was again alienated to Burgeſs, and Robert Burgeſs, Eſq. is the preſent proprietor; who has lately made great improvements in the houſe, park, and grounds about it.

CHIDDINGSTONE.

This pariſh lies entirely within the Weald; the ſoil of it is much the ſame as the neighbouring ones of Hever and Penſhurſt, and produces oak-timber of equal ſize, and as plentiful.

The river Eden croſſes the middle of it eaſtward, and then bending ſouthward it ſeparates this Pariſh from that of Penſhurſt, in which latter it joins the river Medway ſoon afterwards.

In the village of Chiddingſtone, which is ſituated about two miles from Penſhurſt, is the ſeat of the eldeſt branch of the family of Streatfeild,

ſeild, in whoſe poſſeſſion it has continued from the time of King James I. Mrs. Streatſeild, widow of the late Henry Streatſeild, Eſq. who died in 1762 *, reſides in it, but the inheritance of it is veſted in her eldeſt ſon Henry Streatſeild, Eſq.

The church † is a very fair large ſtructure, and the tower of it is ſaid to be as good a piece of work as almoſt any of the kind in Kent. Within this church there are ſeveral memorials of

* Henry Streatfeild. Eſq; of High-ſtreet-Houſe, previous to his marriage with Miſs Ann Sidney; in 1752, ſettled all his eſtates in Chiddingſtone, Hever, Cowden, Braſted, &c. on the firſt and other ſons of that marriage ſucceſſively, and died in 1762 inteſtate; on which Henry, his eldeſt ſon, ſucceeded to all the eſtates compriſed in that ſettlement; but Mr. Henry Streatfeild the father, having purchaſed ſeveral eſtates after his marriage, thoſe at his death inteſtate, deſcended to his two ſons Henry and Richard, as his co-heirs in gavelkind, who now poſſeſs them in undivided moieties.

† This church was appropriated by Walter, the grandſon of Richard de Clare, to the Monks of Daventry in Northamptonſhire. Dugdale's Baronetage, Vol. I. p. 218.

of ancient families that may perhaps be uſeful to our genealogiſts, but are of little importance to others. The preſent rector is Sackville Spencer Bale.

HEVER.

Hever is ſituated a mile farther weſtward. This village has nothing remarkable in it. The river Eden directs its courſe through the midſt of it eaſtward, in its way towards Chiddingſtone and Penſhurſt. The church, which ſtands on the eaſt end of the village, is a ſmall but neat building, having a handſome ſpire at the weſt end of it.

Hever was anciently part of the extenſive patrimony of Sir Stephen de Penchester; but

The CASTLE,

whoſe ruins are ſtill remaining, a great part of which is very entire, and well worth the notice of the curious, was built and embattled, in the time of Edw. III. by Thomas de Hever; whoſe deſcendant, William de Hever, dying without male iſſue, it paſſed to his two daughters and coheireſſes, one of whom being married to Cobham and the other to Brocas, this eſtate ſeems

to

to have continued between them, till it was purchaſed by Geoffrey Bullen. This gentleman's grandſon the famous Sir T. Bullen, Kt. of the Garter, and father of the celebrated and unfortunate Queen Anna Bullen, conſtantly reſided here, and lies buried in Hever church, under a large altar tomb, with his effigy in braſs, dreſſed in his robes and garter, and with a fair inſcription. Queen Anne herſelf reſided here ſometime after King Henry began his courtſhip to her, and there are ſaid to be ſome letters ſtill extant which this paſſionate monarch wrote to her while ſhe lived in this place. On the execution of her brother the unfortunate Lord Rochford, who, with his ſiſter, fell a ſacrifice to the cruel jealouſy and wavering paſſions of the tyrannical Harry, this caſtle was forfeited to the King, and by him given to Anne of Cleves, who reſided here ſome time after her repudiation. Upon her death it reverted again to the crown, and was given, by Mary the Firſt, to Sir Edward Waldegrave *, in which family it remained till the year 1715, when it was conveyed by James Lord Waldegrave to Sir William Humphreys, Knt. and

* Hartlib's Hiſtory of Kent, p. 397.

Bart. who that year was Lord Mayor of London. In this family it continued till the year 1745, when Hever Caſtle, and the Manors of Hever Cobham and Hever Brocas was conveyed by ſale, to Timothy Waldo, of Clapham, in the county of Surry, Eſq. now Sir Timothy Waldo, Knt. and he is the preſent poſſeſſor of them.

EDENBRIDGE.

Edenbridge is a ſmall town about two miles from Hever, and ſo called from being ſituated on the river Eden which loſes itſelf in the Medway at Penſhurſt. The church is a large handſome building, once famous for a crucifix of excellent workmanſhip which ſtood there. The roodloft, or gallery, in which the image was placed, are ſtill remaining; there is alſo ſome remains of good painted glaſs in the windows; and a few fair monuments of the Selyard family.

TUNBRIDGE.

This town is a ſmall territory by itſelf, called "The Lowy of the Diſtrict of Tunbridge." which, according to the beſt accounts of the

Britiſh



Jos. Lambert del.ᵗ H. Ashby sc.

View of the Castle and part of the Town of Tunbridge in Kent.

BRITISH
23MY73
MUSEUM

Britiſh antiquarians, was anciently part of the extenſive patrimony of the ſee of Canterbury, but became diſmembered therefrom through the avarice of Odo Biſhop of Bayeux, and uterine brother to the Conqueror, who in the life-time of Archbiſhop Stigand, and eſpecially in the long vacancy that happened after his depoſition, rapaciouſly ſeized a great part of the eſtates and lordſhip's belonging to this ſee, which he thought to have engroſſed for himſelf and his family for ever; but when Lanfranc, who was a man of ſpirit and reſolution, was advanced to the Archbiſhoprick, he ſent over a complaint againſt the encroachments of Odo to the king in Normandy: and William, well knowing the impetuous and avaricious diſpoſition of his brother, favourably heard the complaint, and immediately ordered it to be tried in the moſt ſolemn manner. Accordingly commiſſioners were appointed, and a jury of the moſt reputable perſons in the ſeveral counties *, where the Archbiſhop had any poſſeſſions, were ſummoned to meet near Aylesford in Kent, to hear and decide

 this

* About two thirds were Kentiſh eſtates, the reſt were in Surry, London, Middleſex, Eſſex, Suffolk, Oxfordſhire, and Buckinghamſhire. Guthrie.

this important cauſe between two of the greateſt ſubjects in the kingdom.

When the trial came on, Lanfranc, being an elegant man for the age in which he lived, pleaded his own cauſe, and obtained a compleat victory over his antagoniſt who was obliged to reſtore twenty-three manors to the archiepiſcopal ſee; among which, this of Tunbridge was one: but as Odo had given this eſtate to his kinſman Richard de Clare, this young nobleman liked the country ſo well, that he was unwilling to reſign it to the Archbiſhop, and therefore, through the King's mediation, entered into an agreement with Lanfranc to exchange his caſtle and country of Brionne * in Normandy for this territory.

At this exchange of eſtates in order to aſcertain the exact extent of territory beyond all poſſibility of a diſpute, the caſtle of Brionne was meaſured about with a ſtring, agreeable to the ſimplicity of that age, and an equal quantity of land, including the town of Tunbridge, was meaſured

* Brionne is a town of Normandy in France, which gives title to a Count, and is ſituated on the river Rille. Lat. 49. 35. Lond. 18. 26. Buſching's Geography.

meaſured with the ſame line, and given up to the Earl of Clare; whoſe ſucceſſors held this eſtate of the See of Canterbury by knights ſervice, till, at the inſtigation of Henry the Second, this tenure was diſputed with that haughty prelate Thomas a Becket, and thus it continued many years in ſuit; till at length, in the reign of Henry the Third, a compoſition was agreed between the archiepiſcopal See and the Earls Clare (now become Earls of Gloceſter) who ever after held this eſtate of the See of Canterbury, upon condition that they ſhould be chief butlers and high ſtewards at the inſtallment of the archbiſhops, and grant them the wardſhip of their children.

The before-mentioned Richard de Clare built the caſtle, and fenced it with the river, a deep ditch, and ſtrong walls, which, though they are now by time and neglect reduced to a moſt ruinous condition, and become the habitation of bats and owls, yet plainly enough ſhew what they have been. He alſo built the church, which he dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, and appropriated to the knights Hoſpitallers of St. John of Jeruſalem, agreeable to the

to the reigning ſuperſtition* of that age, in which the bloody croiſades began.

This nobleman was one of the principal perſons who came into England with the Conqueror, and, in conſequence of the brave aſſiſtance which he gave to William at the memorable battle of Haſtings, as well as in reſpect of his near alliance in blood, (he being grandſon to Geoffrey, who was a natural ſon to Richard the firſt Duke of Normandy) had great advancements in honour, and very large poſſeſſions both in England and Normandy beſtowed upon him: thoſe in England only amounting to one hundred and ſeventy-ſix lordſhips, beſides thirteen burgeſſes in Ipſwich, of which Clare, from whence his title was derived, was one.

In

* It was in this age ſo much the faſhion to appropriate churches and tythes to the Hoſpitallers and Templers of Jeruſalem that it was thought neceſſary by the Lateran council to put the laity under ſome reſtraint: and for this purpoſe a decree was iſſued forth in 1180 to prohibit theſe and all other religious ſocieties from receiving the churches and tenths from the laity without the conſent of the biſhop.---Seldon on Tythes, p. 142.

In 1073, he was joined with William de Warren in the important poſt of Juſticiary of England during the King's abſence, and was at that time a principal inſtrument in ſuppreſſing the dangerous rebellion of the Earls of Hereford and Norfolk, two Norman Lords, who entered into a conſpiracy to deprive William of his royalty and obtain the government for themſelves. Theſe potent noblemen had ſuch reſources at their command, that had they been allowed time to put their ſchemes into execution, and to join their forces, they would in all probability have torn the crown from the Conqueror's brow; it was therefore happy for William that he left his government in the hands of ſubjects who were equally faithful, vigilant, and intrepid.

On the death of the Conqueror, this Earl Richard favoured the pretentions of Robert, and held out ſome time againſt William Rufus; but, on William's appearing with his army before the Caſtle of Tunbridge, he preſently made his ſubmiſſions, and ſwore fealty to the reigning monarch, to whom he ever after adhered with the ſtricted fidelity. Rufus immediately after Earl Richard's ſubmiſſion purſued

ſued the arch-rebel Odo, to Pevenſey, and having taken him priſoner, confined him for a ſhort ſpace at Tunbridge Caſtle; till finding him neceſſary to the reduction of Rocheſter, he ſent for him to his army, from whence Odo made his eſcape into the town, which being ſoon after reduced, he was again taken, and then ſuffered to go quietly over into France according to the articles of capitulation.

Earl Richard followed Rufus into Normandy in the year 1093, and, being there taken priſoner by Robert's forces, was kept in confinement till that dukedom was aſſigned over to William, on Robert's going into the Holy-land; but on this event he obtained his liberty, and, returning to England again, lived ſome years a peaceable life, till at length turning his arms againſt the Welſh, in the beginning of Stephen's reign, he was ſlain in his old age at the battle of Abergavenny.

The caſtle of Tunbridge was poſſeſſed by Gilbert, the ſon of the aforeſaid Earl Richard, in his father's life-time *, it probably being conſigned over to him on account of Richard's captivity

* Dugdale's Baronetage, Vol. I. p. 207.

captivity in Normandy. This Gilbert in the eighth of William Rufus was confederate with Mowbray Earl of Northumberland, but relented* when he ſaw the king upon the point of falling into an ambuſcade of the enemy, and preſerved his life by revealing the danger. After this in the ſecond year of Henry I. he more openly rebelled againſt the King, and taking part with the Earl of Shrewſbury fortified Tunbridge, notwithſtanding which it was ſoon taken from him by the King's forces; but in conſideration of his father's important ſervices

* "Rufus, marching to the north with his army to "ſuppreſs Mowbray Earl of Northumberland, took "Newcaſtle, after about two months ſiege; and from "thence puſhed forward to Bamborough caſtle, where "he was informed the Earl himſelf was ſhut up; but, "in this march, he very narrowly eſcaped being cut off "and all his army. For Mowbray had taken his mea-"ſures ſo well, as to place a ſtrong body of troops in "a defile, through which the king muſt paſs, and where "he could have made little or no reſiſtance; but Gil-"bert de Tunbridge, one of the principal conſpirators, "who had been intruſted by Mowbray with the ſecret "of this ambuſcade, touched by the remembrance of "former favours, found means to apprize William of "his danger, and thereby ſaved both the king and his "army."

Guthrie, Vol. I. p. 207.

to the crown, and his own affinity to the family, Henry immediately reſtored this eſtate to Gilbert *, and he dying in about ten years afterwards, left it to his ſon Richard, the firſt Earl of Hertford †, who, amongſt other works of ſuperſtitious piety, about 1241, founded a priory near his caſtle at Tunbridge for the black canons of St. Auſtin, and dedicated it to St. Mary Magdalen.

In the year 1353, all the buildings of this monaſtry were conſumed by fire, to balance which diſaſter, the church of Leigh was appropriated to it, by which aſſiſtance it very ſoon recovered its ancient bulk and ſplendor; but now there is hardly any veſtige remaining of this priory, except the great hall, which is converted into a barn, by the preſent proprietor. Its revenue in ſpiritualities and temporalities amounted, in the whole to 169l. 10s. 3d. per annum

* This Gilbert gave 20s. per annum out of the toll of Tunbridge Caſtle, to the Cluniac Monks of Lewes in Suſſex.

† This Earl of Hertford gave a free and perpetual alms of twenty-five hogs yearly, out of his foreſt of Tunbridge, to the Præmonſtratenſian canons of Begeham.

Monaſt. Anglic. Tom. ii. p. 640.

annum, and it was diſſolved by Cardinal Wolſey about 1527, being included amongſt the monaſtries that were granted to that prelate, by Henry VIII. for the endowment of his two colleges at Ipſwich and Oxford.

It is ſaid, there was a ſubterraneous paſſage, carried under the bed of the river, from this priory to the caſtle, in order to ſupply the garriſon with neceſſaries in times of diſtreſs; but I can find no warrant for this report, except in the uncertain voice of tradition.

This Richard de Tunbridge was uncle to the famous Richard, ſurnamed *Strongbow*, who, in the reign of Henry II. was a principal inſtrument in the conqueſt of Ireland, which happened in the following manner.

Dermot, the tyrant of Leinſter, being driven from his throne, came into England to aſk the aſſiſtance of Henry to reinſtate him thereon; and having obtained letters patent from the king, whereby he gave his ſubjects liberty to aſſiſt the Iriſh prince; Dermot immediately applied to Strongbow, who was a very eminent warrior at that time; and, having greatly impaired his eſtate by expenſive pleaſures, was

ready for any deſperate undertaking whatever. He therefore readily promiſed, upon condition of marrying the Iriſh king's daughter, and being declared heir to all his dominions, to eſpouſe his quarrel. Dermot, ſatisfied with this promiſe, left Richard to aſſemble his forces, and went himſelf, with ſome other needy adventurers, whom he had engaged in his ſervice, into his own dominions, where, with this ſmall aid, he obtained ſuch advantages over his enemies, as raiſed his expectations extremely high, and made him very earneſt in ſoliciting the promiſed aſſiſtance of Richard to compleat his ambitious deſigns, aiming at nothing ſhort of the ſole government of Ireland.

Richard, on his part, did not make any unneceſſary delays; but, previous to his leaving England, endeavoured, for his own ſecurity, to obtain a more expreſs licence from Henry than the general liberty before mentioned; in which however he was not very ſucceſsful, as that cautious monarch only thought proper not to hinder him. Strongbow finding he could do no good with the king, who was then in Normandy, haſtened back to his eſtate, ſhipped his forces, and immediately entered upon the in-

vaſion

vaſion of Ireland, where he preſently took Waterford and Dublin, and behaved himſelf ſo valiantly that nothing in that kingdom durſt oppoſe him, upon which he married the Iriſh king's daughter, and, Dermot dying ſoon after Richard took poſſeſſion of the kingdom of Leinſter, and was by the Iriſh ſurnamed *Ningal*, that is, *the ſtranger's friend*.

But Henry, hearing of theſe extraordinary ſucceſſes, grew jealous of his progreſs, and, in order to put a ſtop to it, iſſued out a proclamation for all his ſubjects to return home: ſoon after which, upon pretence of diſobedience, he ſequeſtered all the eſtates of Earl Richard in England and Normandy, and prohibited the exportation of proviſions and ſtores to Ireland. All this was very inconſiſtent with the views of Strongbow, as it not only prevented the full completion of his projects, but even endangered his ſafety, whereupon he immediately made ſubmiſſions to the king, and found means to appeaſe his anger and cure his jealouſy, by offering to hold the cities of Dublin and Waterford, together with all his other acquiſitions, in vaſſalage to the crown of England.

This

This perfectly ſatisfied Henry, who thereupon reſtored all his eſtates to Earl Richard, and went into the kingdom of Ireland in perſon at the head of his army to receive the homage of his new ſubjects: and, after appointing Richard Chief Juſtice of the kingdom, ſetling ſome lands upon the Engliſh adventurers, and other acts of government, returned in triumph to his old dominions.

Theſe are the exploits which laid the foundation of the entire reduction of Ireland, though a great many years intervened, and whole rivers of blood were ſhed, before this jewel was compleatly annexed to the Britiſh diadem.

But to return from this excurſion. The caſtle of Tunbridge paſſed from the beforementioned Richard Earl of Hertford to two of his ſons, Gilbert * and Roger † in ſucceſſion, and from

* Gilbert gave the church of Tunbridge to the Cluniac Monks of Lewes; and, probably by way of recompence, appropriated Standowne church to the Hoſpitallers.

Dugdale's Baronetage, Vol. I. p. 210.

† Roger gave a buck annually out of his foreſt at Tunbridge, to the Monks of St. Auguſtine at Canter-

from Roger to his ſon Richard, at whoſe death it devolved to Gilbert the firſt Earl of Gloceſter of this family, and one of the noble champions for liberty againſt King John.

In this civil war the caſtle of Tunbridge was taken from Gilbert, by Fowkes de Brent, a mercenary commander in the king's army, and the Earl himſelf was afterwards taken priſoner at the battle of Lincoln, by his father-in-law the Earl of Pembroke; but recovered his liberty, and had all his eſtates reſtored to him again, at the eſtabliſhment of peace between Henry III. and Prince Lewis of France.

Upon the death of this Gilbert, Henry ſeized the wardſhip of the young Earl, and, during his minority, committed the care of Tunbridge-caſtle to his favorite Hugh de Burgh. The Archbiſhop of Canterbury upon this haſtened to Court, and, alledging that Gilbert had died in his homage, demanded the cuſtody of Tunbridge

bury. It was this Roger that begun the diſpute with the archbiſhops, by refuſing to do homage in 1151 to Thomas a Becket for the caſtle and territory of Tunbridge.

Dugdale's Baronetage, Vol. I. p. 210.

bridge as belonging to the archiepiſcopal fee; but Henry, inſiſting upon his prerogative to diſpoſe of Earls and Barons during their minority, ſupported his miniſter. Upon this, the Archbiſhop thundered out the anathema's of the church againſt all that had entered upon the eſtate, and all, the king alone excepted, who ſhould converſe with them; then haſtened away to Rome, to ſeek that redreſs which was denied him here. The pope, after pretending to hear the cauſe, gave judgment againſt the king; and the exulting prelate was returning in triumph to take poſſeſſion of this ſubject of fierce contention, when death ſtopped him in the way: this event occaſioned the caſtle's continuing as the king had diſpoſed of it till the minor, Earl Richard the fourth, arrived to years of maturity; when this quarrel with the archbiſhops was adjuſted to the entire ſatisfaction of all parties, after it had ſubſiſted exactly an hundred years.

Henry the third granted this Earl Richard a licence to wall and embattle the town of Tunbridge in a manner the moſt uſeful both to annoy an enemy and to ſhield the defendants; but it does not appear that this work was ever carried into

into execution, and it is probable that it was prevented by the civil war which broke out very ſoon after this licence was granted.

Richard dying, July 14, 1262, Tunbridge deſcended to Gilbert the Red, who immediately repaired to Henry III. at Guienne to obtain the inveſture of his father's inheritance; a piece of juſtice which the king, who was jealous of this young lord's deſigns, reluctantly granted, after receiving a conſiderable preſent.

Gilbert however, ſoon amply revenged himſelf upon the King: for immediately on his return to England, in conformity to his father's laſt injunctions, he joined Leiceſter in open rebellion againſt Henry. In conſequence of which, the King, a little before the battle of Lewes, having burned the city of Rocheſter, turned his arms againſt this Caſtle, and took it by ſurprize. Henry here found the Counteſs of Gloceſter, and ſeveral other eminent perſons, whom he thought proper inſtantly to reſtore to their liberty again; but ſtrongly garriſoned the Caſtle, which he kept till after his defeat at Lewes, when himſelf, his ſon, and his brother, were taken priſoners.

The Earl of Gloceſter had a principal command in the rebel army at this famous battle, when he took the King's brother, the king of the Romans, with his own hand; but afterwards becoming ſuſpicious of the Earl of Leiceſter's intentions, this Earl having placed himſelf at the head of government, and apparently deſigning to keep there, he became reconciled to the King, procured the eſcape of the prince, and, having obtained from young Edward the moſt ſolemn aſſurance, of his intention in future to govern according to the laws, was a chief inſtrument in reſtoring his father to the throne.

Gilbert after this had ſome little quarrels with the King, but in the end became a faithful ſubject to Henry, and, having contracted the ſincereſt friendſhip for Prince Edward, never departed from his loyalty; but was one of the firſt to proclaim Edward I. on the death of his father; and moſt nobly entertained him with his whole retinue, for ſeveral days together at Tunbridge Caſtle, on his return from the Holy-land to take poſſeſſion of the throne of his anceſtors.

This Earl, being divorced from his firſt wife, became ambitious of marrying the king's daugh-

ter

ter Joan of Acre, and, to induce his majeſty to grant this requeſt, gave up his Caſtle of Tunbridge and all his other very large poſſeſſions into the King's hands, whereupon he was married to the Princeſs, and Edward reſtored back all his eſtates, and ſettled upon her and the iſſue of her body for ever.

Gilbert lived with this Princeſs about ſix years, and dying in 1295, left her a widow with one ſon and three daughters. The Princeſs however, did not remain long in a ſtate of widowhood, but falling deſperately in love with a plain country ſquire, called Ralph de Monthermer, or Mortimer, ſhe clandeſtinely matched herſelf to him, and ſoon after ſent him from Tunbridge to the King, to receive knighthood. But Edward diſcovering the marriage was highly incenſed, and not only ſent Monthermer into cloſe confinement at Briſtol, but ſeized on all the Princeſs's eſtates, and declared that he would never pardon this meanneſs in his daughter. However, through the mediation of the Biſhop of Durham, the King was brought to ſee and to forgive the Princeſs; and, at length, not only to permit her huſband to live with her, but in a ſhort time to approve of

the match, and even to love him as his own ſon *.

This Princeſs died in 1307, and her ſon by the earl of Gloceſter, was ſlain in the 24th year of his age at the battle of Bannockſburne in Scotland, by which accident this caſtle devolved to one of the daughters †; and thus by marriage paſſed to Audley, (in her right) Earl of Gloceſter; and, he leaving no ſons, went with his daughter to Ralph, Earl of Stafford, who bore a conſiderable part in all the wars of that brave Prince Edward III. and dying in 1373, was buried at Tunbridge. This eſtate continued with his deſcendants, who became Dukes of Buckingham,

* Ralph de Monthermer was ſoon after this reconciliation ſummoned to parliament by the title of Earl of Gloceſter and Hartford, which titles he bore till his ſon-in-law Gilbert de Clare came of age; after which he was ſummoned to the ſucceeding parliaments as Lord Monthermer only. He had two ſons by the princeſs, one of which left a daughter who was married to John Montague Earl of Saliſbury, from whom the late Duke of Montague, the Duke of Mancheſter, and the Earls of Sandwich, Halifax, &c. derive their original.

† Margaret the ſecond daughter, who was firſt married to Pierce Gaveſton.

Buckingham, till the reign of Henry VIII. but then, by the ſacrifice of Duke Edward to the rapacious and inſatiable ambitions of Cardinal Wolſey in 1521, it came to the crown *; from which time it has gradually mouldered away to its preſent ruinous condition, in which it can only ſerve as a ſubject of reflection to thoſe contemplatiſts who are diſpoſed to moralize upon the frailty and mutability of earthly things.

In times a little nearer approaching to our own, this town has been uſefully endowed with a very good Free-ſchool, built and given by Sir Andrew Judd, who was Lord Mayor of London in 1551. Sir Andrew appointed the Company of Skinners for the time being the ſtanding Truſtees of this noble charity, a duty which in all ages ſince they have ſo generouſly diſcharged, as

* Queen Elizabeth gave this Caſtle to her kinſman Henry Cary, Lord Hunſdon, and his ſon George ſettled it in marriage with his daughter upon Thomas Lord Berkeley, who alienated it to Sir John Kennedy, and thus it came into private hands; but it does not appear ever to have been inhabited ſince the fall of the Duke of Buckingham as in the text. The preſent proprietor is John Hooker, Eſq. of Tunbridge.

as not only to juſtify his choice, but alſo to encourage all judicious men to imitate his example in every work of public perpetual charity.

This town was once ſo conſiderable as to ſend burgeſſes to parliament; at preſent it gives title of Viſcount to the Earl of Rochford; and has a good market on Fridays, for corn and meat; alſo a market of later eſtabliſhment, on the firſt Tueſday in every month for all kind of cattle; and three fairs in a year. The preſent church is an handſome modern ſtructure, and there are ſaid to be ſome good monuments in it, particularly of the Stafford family.

Since the year 1740, the river Medway has been made navigable from Maidſtone to Tunbridge, which has ſo much increaſed its trade, that it is now in a moſt flouriſhing condition, there being ſeveral very ſubſtantial tradeſmen there: and a great many good houſes have lately been erected in it by gentlemen who have fixed upon this town as their place of reſidence.

In the year 1775, the ancient ſtone bridge over the river Medway, in Tunbridge Town, being in a decayed and dangerous ſtate was pul-

led

led down, and a temporary one of wood erected near to it, whilſt a new ſtone one was built, on the foundation of the old one, after a deſign of Mr. Mylne's, and erected by Pindar, of Black-Friars. The firſt ſtone was laid in Auguſt, 1775, and it was finiſhed about Eaſter following. The coſt was at the expence of the county, and eſtimated at about 1100 l.

SEVENOAK.

Sevenoak, vulgarly called Se'noak, is a good market-town about ſix miles farther on the London road, and in the whole near thirteen miles from Tunbridge-Wells. This place is ſuppoſed to derive its name from ſeven oaks of an extraordinary height that grew in or near the town when it was firſt built.

Sevenoak is governed by two wardens and four aſſiſtants. There are ſeveral good houſes therein, and a great number of gentlemen's ſeats in the country round it; but it is chiefly remarkable for the grateful charity of Sir William Sevenoak, Lord Mayor of London in the year of 1419, who was a Foundling in this place, from whence he took his name.

Sir

Sir William was brought up, and apprenticed at the expence of Mr. William Rumſched, a charitable inhabitant of this town; and, in remembrance of his preſervation, he built and endowed thirteen alms-houſes for the maintenance of aged perſons, and a ſchool for the education of poor children; which proper inſtance of generous gratitude deſerves to be handed down to poſterity.

Mr. John Potkyns, in the reign of King Henry VIII. was a great benefactor to this ſchool; and its revenue was farther augmented, and all its litigated poſſeſſions quietly eſtabliſhed by Queen Elizabeth, from whence it is called Queen Elizabeth's Free-ſchool. The building, as it now ſtands, was erected on the old foundation in the year 1727.

This town, though it has for a long ſeries of years been in its preſent good condition, and ſurrounded by nobility and gentry who have many capital houſes in the neighbourhood, is famous in the national hiſtory only on account of a battle that was fought here in the reign of Henry VI. between a part of the King's forces and Jack Cade.

Jack

Jack Cade, having been inſtructed to aſſume the name of Mortimer, in order to feel how the people's pulſe beat towards that family, repaired into Kent, and drew together a prodigious number of male-contents, with which he encamped on Black-heath; but being met there by the King in perſon, at the head of fifteen thouſand regulars, he thought proper to draw back into a wood near Sevenoak. Henry unhappily imagining, from this retreat, that the rebels were diſperſed, ſent a detachment of his army after their leader, under the command of Sir Humphrey Stafford, which detachment, unwarily falling into an ambuſcade near this town, was entirely cut to pieces, Sir Humphrey, and his brother, being ſlain on the field of battle.

Upon this ſucceſs Cade immediately marched up to London, the King was hurried away to Kenilworth Caſtle, and the City, in her firſt conſternation, opened her gates to the inſurgents; but the citizens, in a few days repenting of this falſe ſtep, took the firſt opportunity to ſhut them out again, which occaſioned a long fight betwixt them and Cade, that terminated at night only in a ceſſation of arms, and at length, by a device of the Archbiſhop of Can-

terbury's, in the total diſperſion of the rebels, and the death of their leader, who was ſoon after ſlain by Iden, at that time Sheriff of the county.

PRESENT STATE of SEVENOAK.

The pariſh of Sevenoak is divided into three diſtricts:—the Town-borough; Riverhead; and the Weald.

The town is pleaſantly ſituated on that great ridge of hills, which run acroſs the country, and divide the Upland from the Weald, or ſouthern diſtrict of it.

It is a populous well built town, having (among other gentlemen's houſes in it) at the ſouthern extremity a handſome ſeat, which has been for many years the reſidence of the family of Lambard; and is now in the poſſeſſion of Multon Lambard, Eſq. a deſcendant of the famous perambulator. In the middle of the High-ſtreet, is the houſe of Mr. Francis Auſten, who reſides in it; and about the centre of the town is the large antient Market-place, in which the market is held weekly on a Saturday, and where the

the buſineſs of the Aſſizes when held at Sevenoak, (as they were ſeveral times in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, in the year before the death of King Charles I. and once ſince) has been uſually tranſacted. The town here divides into two ſtreets: at the end of that to the north-eaſt is a large houſe, lately the ſeat of Sir Harry Farmer, the hall and ſaloon of which are large and elegant, particularly the latter, which is very richly furniſhed. Beyond this is a handſome plain, called Sevenoak Vine, appropriated to Cricketings, and ſuch like diverſions, for the gentlemen of the county; and at a ſmall diſtance further is the ſeat of the late Sir Multon Lambard, now the reſidence of his widow, Lady Lambard; beyond which is a common, called Gallows Common, from the public execution of criminals there, when the Aſſizes were held as above; and a little further are the remains of the ſuppreſſed Hoſpital of St. John, a ſmall diſtance from the eaſt of which are the curious

SILK MILLS,

belonging to, and carried on by Mr. Peter Nouaille. The other ſtreet towards the north-weſt, leads to

RIVERHEAD,

a Hamlet ſituated about a mile from the Town of Sevenoak, in which there was an antient

manſion called Brooks Place, ſuppoſed to have been built by one of the family of Colepeper, out of the materials taken from the neighbouring Hoſpital of St. John. It aftdrwards came into the poſſeſſion of the family of Amherſt; and the preſent Lord Amherſt, formerly reſided here till he built his ſeat at Montreal, when this was pulled down.

MONTREAL.

An elegant manſion, built of fine ſtone, pleaſingly ſituated about a mile from Riverhead, near the road leading from thence to Weſterham, and into part of Surry; belonging to Lord Amherſt, who erected this houſe ſoon after his return from America, for his entire reſidence, naming it Montreal, in remembrance of his great ſucceſs in taking that city in Canada.

The victorious achievements of the Britiſh forces in North America, during Sir Jeffery Amherſt's continuance there, cannot be better ſummed up than by giving two of the inſcriptions on an obeliſk in the grounds of his ſeat at Montreal;

LOU-

LOUISBOURGH
Surrendered, and ſix French Battalions priſoners of War, 26th July, 1758.

FORT DU QUESNE
Taken poſſeſſion of, 24th of Nov. 1758.

NIAGARA
Surrendered, 25th of July, 1759.

TICONDEROGA
Taken poſſeſſion of, 26th July, 1759.

CROWN POINT
Taken poſſeſſion of, 4th of Auguſt, 1759.

QUEBECK
Capitulated, 18th of Septemper, 1759.

On the other,

FORT LEVI
Surrendered, 25th of Auguſt, 1760.

ISLE AU NOIX
Abandoned, 28th of Auguſt, 1760.

MONTREAL
Surrendered, and with it all CANADA; and ten French Battalions laid down their Arms, 8th of September, 1760.

St. JOHN's, NEWFOUNDLAND,
Retaken, 18th of Sept. 1762.

CHEVENING,

Situate about four miles from Sevenoak, belonging to the Right Hon. the Earl of Stanhope, is an elegant ſeat; a full view of which may be ſeen on the right as you deſcend Madam's-Court-Hill, in coming from London, which likewiſe commands a fine view of Montreal, and ſeveral other neighbouring ſeats.

This ſeat very early belonged to a family of the ſame name; and from them, in the reign of K. Henry VI. paſſed the Iſeleys; and from them in the thirty-fifth of King Henry VIII. to John Lennard, Eſq. who was ſheriff of Kent the 12th of Queen Elizabeth *. About the 14th of James I. it was rebuilt by Richard Lennard, Lord Dacre, on a plan of Inigo Jones, whoſe deſcendants the Lady Barbara, and Lady Ann, daughters and co-heirs of Thomas Lennard, Earl of Suſſex, ſold it in 1717, to Major General James Stanhope, grandſon to Philip, firſt Earl of Cheſterfield, who following a military life, roſe by degrees to the higheſt honours in it. In 1708, being declared commander in chief of

* See Haſted's Hiſtory of Kent.

of the British forces in Spain, he reduced the castle of St. Philip, and the celebrated Port of Mahon, in the island of Minorca; in 1710, the signal victory of Almenara was owing to his prudence and valour. On the accession of George I, he was sworn of the Privy Council, &c.—in April 1717, constituted First Commissioner of the Treasury, and Chancellor of the Exchequer; and on July following, was promoted to the dignity of Lord Viscount Stanhope, of Mahon, in the island of Minorca. He died on Feb. 5, 1721, and Philip, the eldest son, is the present Earl Stanhope, who resides at Chevening, and has lately made very great improvements to the house and gardens. In this parish church are fine tombs of the Lennard family.

BRADBOURN.

An ancient seat, situated about a mile north west of the town of Seveneak, belonging to Sir Richard Bettenson, Bart. This estate had originally the same owners as Knowle, till it was passed away in the reign of K. Edward III, to Walter de Pevenley, who very probably first erected this mansion. In the reign of Henry VI.

it

it ſucceeded to the poſſeſſion of a family of the Aſhes, who rebuilt a great part of the antient fabric, as appears by their arms in ſeveral of the windows. After this eſtate had remained ſome generations in this family, it became part of the poſſeſſions of the family of Iſley, in which it remained till Sir Henry Iſley exchanged it with King Henry VIII. It is ſuppoſed to have remained with the Crown till the reign of Q. Elizabeth, when it became the property of Sir Ralph Boſville, Knt. one of which family afterwards rebuilt the manſion houſe of Bradbourn about the year 1750, as it now remains; and dying in 1761, unmarried, bequeathed this eſtate to his kinſman Richard, only ſon and heir of Sir Edward Bettenſon, Bart. who ſucceeded his father in the title of Baronet in 1762, and in 1765, ſerved the office of High Sheriff of this county. He is the preſent poſſeſſor of this manor and ſeat, which as well as the park, has been greatly improved by him within theſe few years.

KEPINGTON.

A ſeat belonging to Sir Charles Farnaby, Bart. ſituate about a mile from Sevenoak, on a pleaſing

pleaſing eminence, commanding ſeveral fine proſpects, and having a full view of Sevenoak town.

This eſtate formerly belonged to a younger branch of the family of Cobham, it next went in marriage in the reign of Henry VIII. to Sir Edward Borough, Knt. It paſſed through ſeveral other hands till the reign of K. Charles I. when it was conveyed to Mr. Thomas Farnaby, one of the moſt eminent ſchoolmaſters of that time. He was an excellent ſcholar, ſo famous in his teaching, that more eminent men, in church and ſtate, iſſued thence than from any other ſchool taught by one man in England. He removed from London, where he had upwards of three hundred noblemen and others under his care, to Sevenoak in 1636, taught with great eſteem, grew rich, and purchaſed eſtates here, and at other places. He died in 1647, when his eldeſt ſon, Francis Farnaby, Eſq. ſucceeded to this eſtate; at whoſe death his eldeſt ſon Charles Farnaby, ſucceeded his father at Kepington; who, in the ſecond year of King George I. was knighted; in the ſixth of that reign, was ſheriff of this county; and on July 21, 1726, advanced to the dignity of a Baronet.

He left one ſon, Thomas, his ſucceſſor in title and eſtate; and two daughters, Sarah, who married Sir Sidney Stafford Smythe, Knt. late Lord Chief Baron of his Majeſty's Court of Exchequer; and Elizabeth.

Sir Thomas Farnaby, Bart. his only ſon, died in 1760, leaving iſſue, three ſons and one daughter; Sir Charles Farnaby, the eldeſt ſon, is the preſent Baronet, who was firſt choſen a member for this county, and afterwards a member for Hythe. He has within theſe few years rebuilt this ſeat, and now reſides at it.

WILDERNESS.

A ſeat belonging to John Pratt, Eſq. formerly called *Stidulfe's-Place*, about three miles from Sevenoak, in the road leading to Wrotham and Maidſtone, ſituate in Seal pariſh, which Robert de Stidulfe is mentioned in ancient deeds, without date, to have held with much other land in Seal. From this family it was conveyed about the 11th of Henry VI. to William Quintin; it next paſſed to Richard Theobald, Secondary of Queen Elizabeth's Remembrancer in the Exchequer; it was afterwards

wards ſold in the reign of King Charles II. to Sir Charles Bickerſtaffe, who changed the name of it to Wilderneſs. At his death it was ſold to John Pratt, Eſq. Serjeant at Law, who, on November 14, 1714, was appointed one of the Juſtices of the Court of King's-Bench, and knighted; after that one of the Lords Commiſſioners for the Cuſtody of the Great Seal, and in 1718, Lord Chief Juſtice of the Court of King's-Bench. His grandſon, John Pratt, Eſq. is the preſent poſſeſſor, who reſides here, and at Bayham Abbey, alternately, and has lately enclosed into a park the grounds belonging to it.

GROVE.

The beautiful and picturesque ſeat of Mrs. Hardinge, relict of Nicholas Hardinge, Eſq. Secretary to the Treaſury, and ſiſter to Lord Camden, is cloſe to Wilderneſs Park.

OTFORD.

A village near Sevenoak, which though wide of our intended deſcription, being of great antiquity, we ſhall give a ſhort account of it.

The Archbiſhops of Canterbury had from the earlieſt account, a houſe or palace here, in which they reſided from time to time, as appears from their frequent mandates, dated from their manor houſe at Otford. Archbiſhop Wincheſter died here, in the ſixth year of King Edward II. 1313.

Archbiſhop Dean, in the reign of King Henry VIII. rebuilt great part of this houſe; and Archbiſhop Wareham, his immediate ſucceſſor, thinking the houſe too mean for his reſidence, rebuilt the whole of it, excepting the hall and the chapel, at the expence of 33,000 l. a large ſum at that time.

There are but ſmall remains left of this ſtately palace, for ſuch it muſt have been. It was ſituated at a ſmall diſtance from, and facing the ſouth part of Otford village. There is a wall and two towers, part of the outer court remaining entire. Of the palace itſelf nothing is left but vaſt heaps of rubbiſh and foundations, which cover an acre of ground. The ſpring of water which ſupplied the palace is called St. Thomas's Well, from the tradition that Archbiſhop Becket finding the houſe wanting a fit ſpring to water

water it, ſtruck his ſtaff into the dry ground, and that water immediately appeared where this well is.

Antient hiſtory makes mention of two famous battles fought at Otford, one of which happened among the Saxons themſelves, contending for glory and ſupreme ſovereignty, the other between the Danes and Saxons, for their lands, lives and liberties.

The firſt of which was fought in 773, between Offa, King of Mercia, and Adrie, King of Kent, when Offa gained the victory, yet not without great ſlaughter on both ſides. The other battle was fought in 1316, between King Edmund, ſirnamed *Ironſide*, and Canute, the Daniſh King.

The fields here are full of the remains of thoſe ſlain in battles; bones are continually diſcovered in them, particularly when the New Turnpike-road which leads from Eynsford thro' Otford to Sevenoak, was widened in 1767, many ſkeletons were found in the chalk-cliffs on each ſide of it.

Mr.

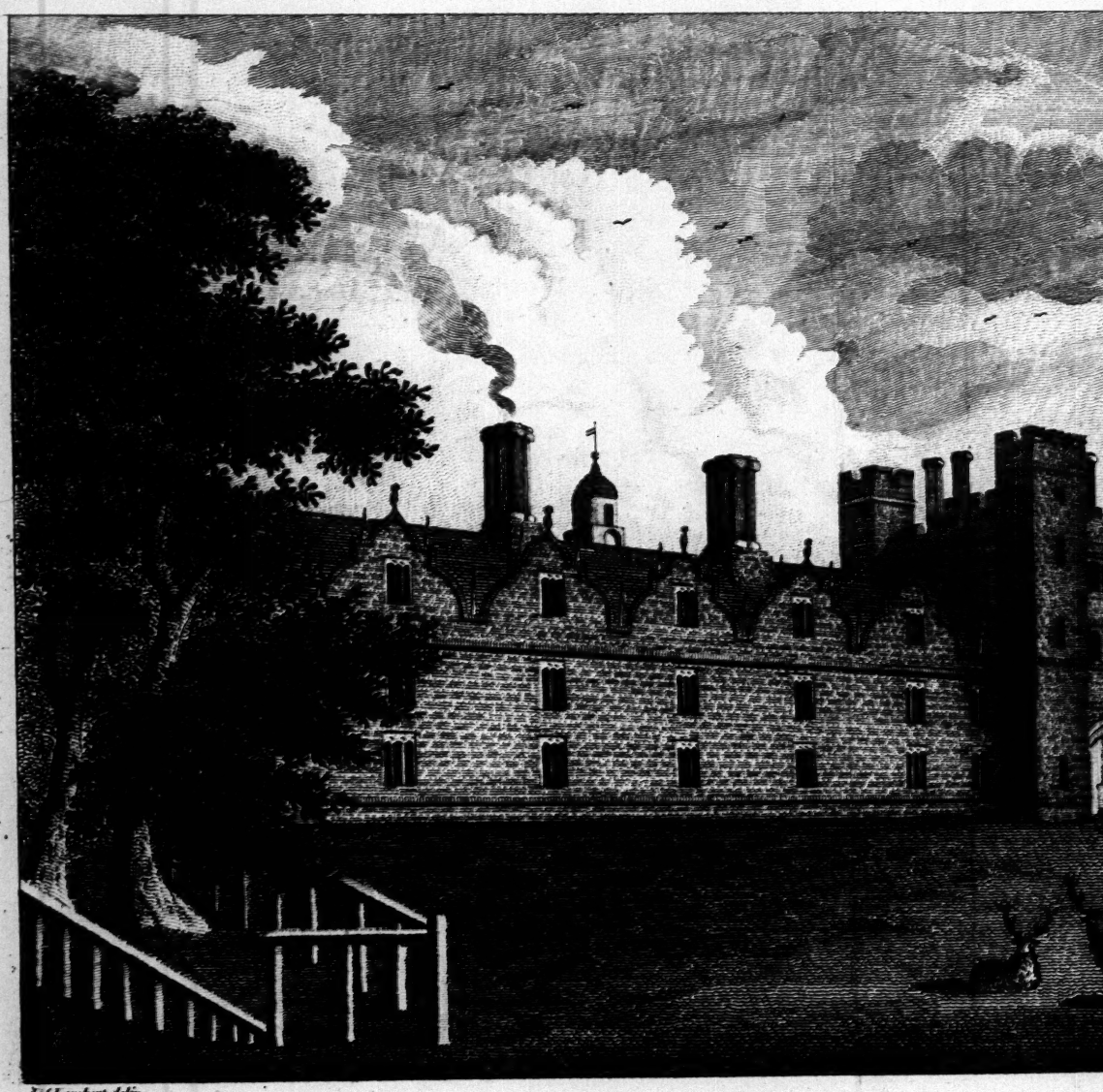
Mr. Pollill has a field in this parish, called Dane Field, which most probably was the spot on which the last-mentioned battle with the Danes was fought.

KNOWLE.

Knowle stands at a small distance from Sevenoak; a pleasant Road leads to it through the park, from Sevenoak Common, a mile from that Town, on the road leading to Tunbridge; and has been a remarkable seat almost from the days of William the Conqueror. After passing through many illustrious families, it descended by marriage to Sir William Fiennes, by whose son it was sold to Bouchier, Archbishop of Canterbury. This prelate annexed it to the Archiepiscopal See, and rebuilt the house in a magnificent manner; and his successors afterwards much improved and augmented this noble mansion, which continued with them till the 29th year of King Henry VIII. when Cranmer, observing that it's grandeur excited the jealousy and envy of the nobility, exchanged it with the Crown, as he did also the sumptuous palace at Otford, built by Archbishop Warcham his im-

 mediate

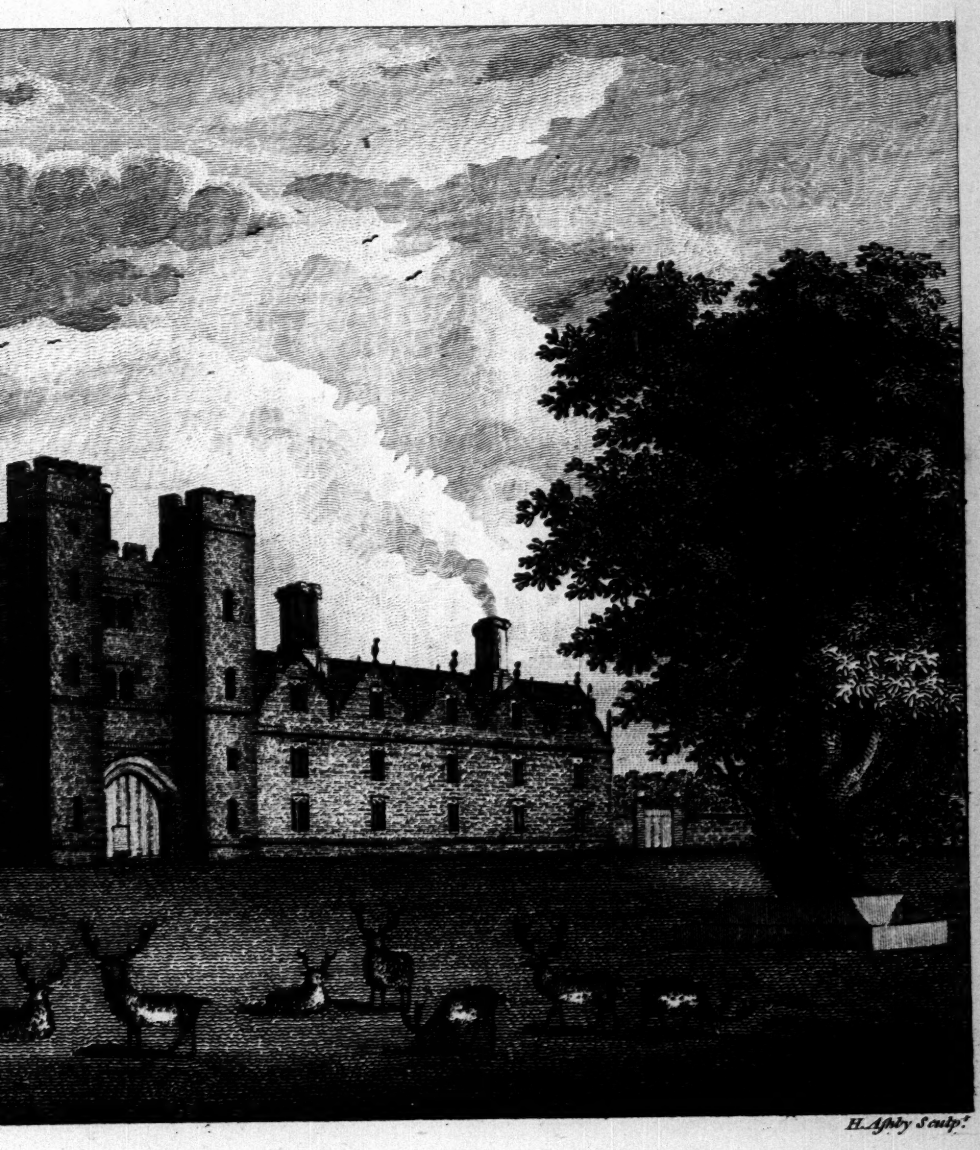




Ja.s Lambert delin.

Knowle, the Seat of His Grace

Publish'd by J Sprange, Tunbridge Wells,



H. Ashby Sculp.

race the Duke of Dorset.

ridge Wells, Nov.r 19th. 1784.

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mediate predeceſſor, at the conſiderable expence before mentioned.

Knowle continued with the Crown till Edward VI. in the 2nd year of his reign, granted it to his uncle the Duke of Somerſet, on whoſe attainder it again reverted to the King, and by him was given to Somerſet's enemy the ambitious Duke of Northumberland, on whoſe execution it returned once more to the Crown, and was by Queen Mary granted to Cardinal Poole for his life, and one year afterwards. When this Grant was expired, Queen Elizabeth gave it to her favorite, Dudley, Earl of Leiceſter, who in the ſame year reſigned it back again into her Majeſty's hands; whereupon ſhe firſt leaſed it to John Lennard, of Chevening, Eſq. who * transferred it to his eldeſt ſon, Sampſon Lennard, Eſq. who reſided here till about the 3rd year of the reign of King James I. when the leaſe expired; and then this Seat became veſted in Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurſt, afterwards Earl of Dorſet, and then Lord Treaſurer to the Queen; to whom the reverſion and fee-ſimple of theſe premiſes had been granted by Queen Elizabeth, in the 8th year of

* See Haſted's Hiſtory of Kent.

of her reign, ſoon after the Earl of Leiceſter's ſurrender of his grant to her, as before mentioned. This nobleman beautified the old building, made ſome expenſive additions to it, and left it in good order to his ſucceſſors.

His grandſon Richard, Earl of Dorſet, about the year 1612, purchaſed the Manor of Sevenoak, with it's appertenancies, of Henry Cary, Lord Hunſdon.

After which this Earl became ſo exceſſive in his bounties, that he was neceſſiated to ſell the manor of Sevenoak; the manor, ſeat and park of Knowle, &c. to Mr. Henry Smith, Citizen and Alderman of London; reſerving, however, to himſelf and his heirs, a leaſe of them at an annual reſerved rent. The ſaid Henry Smith, Eſq. being poſſeſſed of conſiderable eſtates, he in 1620, conveyed ſeveral of them (among which were thoſe in Sevenoak, &c.) to Robert, Earl of Eſſex, Richard, Earl of Dorſet, and others; in whom he likewiſe veſted his large perſonal property in truſt, to pay him 500 l. towards his livery, and the reſidue to ſuch charitable uſes as he ſhould appoint by will.

* See Hafted's Hiſtory of Kent.

After

After his death, in the year 1641, the Earl of Eſſex, and other the then ſurviving truſtees, by deed inrolled in Chancery, allotted the rent of Knowle manor, houſe and park, (then lett to the Earl of Dorſet at 100 l. per annum) to be yearly diſtributed to five ſeveral pariſhes in Surry; and the rents of other manors and lands then lett to that Earl, diſtributed in ſeveral other pariſhes.

Since which theſe premiſes have continued in the deſcendants of the Earl of Dorſet, to his Grace John Sackville, Duke of Dorſet, the preſent poſſeſſor of them.

The preſent Duke of Dorſet has much improved, and made a noble ſeat of this venerable manſion, which his Grace has choſen for the principal place of his reſidence in the country.

This fine old manſion ſtands in the midſt of an extenſive park, beautified with a great number of very large beech-trees, and covered with as fine a turf as any in the world. The park is well ſtocked with deer, and all ſorts of game, and there is a little gothic hermitage in it, at a ſmall diſtance from the houſe, which is a great curioſity in itſelf, beſides a variety of uncommon birds, &c. that are kept there.

A LIST OF THE PICTURES AT KNOWLE.

BROWN GALLERY.

A MISER, by *Quintin Matſys.*

George Villars, Duke of Buckingham, by *Cornelius Janſſan.*

Sir George Villars, his Father, by *Ditto.*

Archbiſhop Bancroft.

General Davies, by *William Dobſon.*

Two Lady's Heads.

Two Children, of the Cranfield Family.

Sir Henry Neville, and Lady Mary.

Silenus, by *Peter Paul Rubens.*

Two

Two Daughters of Richard Sackville, Earl of Dorſet.

Lord Chief Baron Lant.

Carey, Earl of Hunſdon, the Father and Son.

Sir Kenelm Digby, (a copy) by *Goudt.*

Elizabeth Vace Amen.

A Head of Edward, Earl of Dorſet.

A Woman's Head.

Lionel Cranfield, Earl of Middleſex, and his Daughter.

Old Earl of Worceſter.

A Spaniſh Piece.

Horn Gallery.

Martin Luther, and Melanchton & Eraſmus.

* Pomeranus Rodolphs, by *Holbein.*

Illuſtrious Heads, in the Time of Henry VIII

Queen Mary.

Queen Elizabeth.

King Henry VIII.

* Queen Ann Bullen.

King James I.

Edward VI.

Spangled Bed Room.

Sir Walter Raleigh, and Lady.

Dressing Room *to ditto.*

* The Story of the Maccabees, by *Vand.*
Medea and Jaſon, by *Titian.*
Mrs. Sackville, by Sir *Peter Lely.*
Counteſs of Shrewſbury.
Ducheſs of York.

Dressing-Room *to the Spangled-Room.*

* A Sleeping Venus with Cupid, by *Correggio.*
* Mrs. Stewart, afterwards Ducheſs of Richmond, by *Lely.*
* Mr. Warneton, a Chineſe, by Sir *Joſhua Reynolds.*
* A Dutch Converſation Piece, by *Hemſkirk.*
* A Madona, with a Bambino, by *C. Dolce.*
* Emperor Charles V. by *Cavia.*
The Angel releaſing St. Peter, by *Treviſani.*
* Francis Hals the Painter, by *himſelf.*
* Abraham entertaining the Angels, by *Guercino.*
* Francis I. and his Queen.
* Two Landſcapes.
One ditto, by *Salvator Roſa.*

Vandyke,

Vandyke, and the Earl of Gowran, his Father in-law, by *Vandyke*.

Billiard Room.

A Head of Oliver Cromwell, by *R. Walker*.

Democritus and Heraclitus, by *Mignard*.

Actæon and Calisto, by *Titian*.

James Cranfield, Earl of Middlesex, and his Sister.

* A Head of Edward, Earl of Dorset, by *Vandyke*.

* A Salutation, by *Rembrandt*.

Prince Palatine of the Rhine, his Wife, and two Daughters, by *Lucas de Heem*.

King and Queen of Spain, by Sir *A. More*.

Duke d'Epernon.

Venetian Ambassador, by *Cornelius Janssan*.

A Head of Mr. Brett, by *Ditto*.

A Head of Ann, Daughter of Geo. Clifford, Earl of Cumberland; and the Wife of Richard, Earl of Dorset.

Countess of Middlesex.

Earl of Middlesex.

Lady Monmouth.

Sir Ralph Bosville.

* Lord Chancellor Somers, by Sir *Godfrey Kneller*, A.

Sir

Sir John Suckling

Prince Henry.

King James I. by *Daniel Mytens.*

James, Marquis of Hamilton, by *Vandyke,*

Lionel, Lord Buckhurſt; and Lady Mary Sackville, his Siſter, by Sir *Godfrey Kneller.*

The Arts and Sciences, by *Georgio Vaſari.*

Robert Sackville, Earl of Dorſet.

Venetian Room.

The God of Silence, (a Copy from Schiavone) by *Cartewright.*

Lady Hume.

Holy Family.

Dressing-Room *to ditto.*

Lionel, Duke of Dorſet, by *Wooton.*

Lord Middleſex.

Inſide of a church, at Antwerp.

Titian's Wife going to poiſon his Miſtreſs, by *Titian.*

* A Painter's Gallery, by *J. B. Franks.*

A Farm Yard, by *Hondekoeter.*

* A Landſcape, by *Salvator Roſa.*

* A Banditti, by *Ditto.*

A Scene

A Scene in the Coal Mines.

* A Woman at Cards.

* A Battle, by *Bourguignon.*

* Sir Thomas More, by *Holbein.*

* Lord Shafteſbury, by *Riley.*

* A Landſcape, by *Berchem.*

A Maſquerade, by *Paolo Veroneſe.*

* Madam Dalwick, Siſter to the Ducheſs of Dorſet.

* Candle-light Piece, by *Schalcken.*

A woman with a Scull, by *Elſheimer.*

Ball Room.

A whole length of Mrs. Abingdon, by Sir *Joſhua Reynolds.*

John Frederick Sackville, Duke of Dorſet, by *Ditto.*

Lionel, Duke of Dorſet, by Sir *G. Kneller.*

Ducheſs of Dorſet, by *Hudſon.*

Charles, Earl of Dorſet, by Sir *G. Kneller.*

A Head of Richard, Earl of ditto.

* Another Richard and his Wife, by *Mytens.*

* Counteſs of Middleſex.

Earl of ditto

Thomas, Earl of Dorſet.

Edward*

Edward, Earl of Dorſet, by *Vandyke.*

* His Counteſs, by *Mytens.*

Robert Dudley, Earl of Leiceſter.

* A Proſpect of Dover Caſtle; with the Proceſſion of Lionel, Duke of Dorſet, Lord Warden, in his Return to the Caſtle.

The CHAPEL.

Ecce Homo.

The Scourging.

Our Bleſſed Saviour, walking on the Sea.

LOWER CHAPEL.

The Apoſtles compoſing the Creed; done in the School of *Raphael.*

Two Madonas.

DRAWING ROOM.

* St. Paul's Head, by *Rembrandt.*

* Perſian Sybil, by *Dominichino.*

* Count Ugolino, and his Four Sons, by Sir *Joſhua Reynolds.*

* Sir Kenelm Digby, by *Vandyke.*

* Ortelius, by *Holbein.*

Two

Two Dutch Figures, by *Teniers.*

The Four Seaſons, by *Filippo Laura.*

* Counteſs of Dorſet, by *Vandyke.*

* Ducheſs of Cleveland, by *Lely.*

Marriage of St. Catharine Judith, with Holofernes, by *Benvenuto Garofalo.*

Sir Theodore de Mayherne.

Rape of the Wife of Hercules, by the Centaur Neſſus, by *Annib. Caracci.*

Cupids, by *N. Pouſſin.*

A Flemiſh Piece, by *Segers.*

A Fancy Piece, by *Woovermans.*

* A Head of Raphael.

* St. John and a Lamb, by *Correggio.*

* A Madona, by *Andrea del Sarto.*

* A Landſcape, by *Berchem.*

* A Pieta, by *Annib. Caracci.*

* A Holy Family, by *Pietro Perugino.*

Cartoon Gallery.

* Six Cartoons, (Copies) by *Mytens.*

Charles, Earl of Dorſet.

His Counteſs, by Sir *Godfrey Kneller.*

* Lucretia, by *Guido Rheni.*

* Thomas Howard, Earl of Surry.

James, Lord Northampton.

* Thomas, Earl of Dorſet, by *C. Janſſan.*

KING's BEDCHAMBER.

Counteſs of Dorſet, (a Copy) by *Gouge.*

Mr. Crew.

DINING PARLOUR.

* The taking of Moſes out of the Bull-ruſhes, by *Luca Jordano.*

* Mr. Garrick, by Sir *Joſhua Reynolds.*

* A Collection of Poets, *name on earth.*

A ſmall Picture of K. Richard II.

Ditto of Thomas, Earl of Dorſet.

* Dr. Johnſon, by Sir *Joſhua Reynolds.*

* Dr. Goldſmith, by *Ditto.*

* Mr. Gay.

Sir Iſaac Newton.

* Correlli.

Over the CHIMNEY.

King James, and Prince Henry.

COLLONADE.

COLLONADE.

* Two Lava Tables, and a Collection of fine Buſts, with Name on them.

GUARD ROOM.

Louis XV.

* Oyſters.

The Nativity, by *Old Palma*.

* The Ruins of the Amphitheatre at Rome, in Moſaic.

Mr. Betterton.

A Magdalen, by *Albani*.

Major Maon.

A View of the East-ſide of Knowle.

Ditto of Sevenoak Town.

Two Landſcapes.

A ſmall Picture of Betterton.

A Boy of the Sackville Family.

The Nativity, by *Baſſan*.

Plundering a Carrier's Waggon, by *Vandervelde*.

Hay, Earl of Carliſle.

Two Candlelight Pieces, oppoſite each other.

* A View of Knowle, by *P. Sandby*.

Lady Elizabeth Germaine.

Mrs. Margaret Woffington.

Two Fan-mounts:—one is the Rape of the Sabine Women; the other, the Aurora, by *Guido*.

Blue Room.

* A Guardian Angel leading a Child to Heaven, by *P. Cortona*.

* A fine Mare and Groom, by *Stubbs*.

* Beggar Boys, by Sir *Joshua Reynolds*.

* Cosmo, Duke of Tuscany, by *Tintoretti*.

Two Landscapes, by *Claude Lorrain*.

* Three Cupids, by *Parmigiano*.

Rocks, by *Salvator Rosa*.

* A Picture of Raphael.

The Blessed Virgin teaching our Blessed Saviour to read, by *Baroccio*.

* A Head, by *Guido*.

* A little Boy carrying a Lamb, by *Correggio*

* A Head of a Poetess, by *Dominichino*.

* A fine Madona, by *Raphael*.

* The Angel delivering St. Peter out of Prison, by *Teniers*.

* A Dutch Wedding, by *Ditto*.

* A Sea View, by *Vandervelde*.

* A Magdalen with a Cross, by *Guercino*.

* A fine

* A fine Head, by *Carlo Maratti.*

* A Queen, by *Rembrandt.*

* The Flight into Ægypt:—the Landſcape Part by *Paul Bril*, the Figures by *Rothenhaimer.*

Book Room.

A Perſian Sybil, by *Guercino.*

The Goddeſs Ægeria, to whom Numa Pompilius offered Sacrifice.

☞ *Thoſe marked thus* *, *are the moſt capital Pieces.*

There

There are many other ſeats in this neighbourhood, (which do not come within the limited extent of this little performance to be deſcribed) particularly the Moat at Ightham, an antient ſeat of the Selby family. Ightham-court, the ſeat of the James's family. St. Clare, the ſeat of William Evelyn, Eſq. &c.

We muſt now again lead our traveller on to Tunbridge Town, where on his entry, at that end, he will perceive ſeveral good houſes, one of which, a modern built handſome brick houſe, belonging to Geo. Children, Eſq. is on the left hand, oppoſite the Free-ſchool. A little farther down on the right hand, is another good building, belonging to, and the reſidence of Thomas Hooker, Eſq. proprietor of the Caſtle, and who is one of the principal proprietors of the Powder Mills, erected in this neighbourhood; alſo the ſole proprietor of ſome Crock Kilns lately built there by him, which prove very eſſential to the neighbourhood, towards ſupplying them with that article.

At about the middle of Tunbridge Town branches the Turnpike-road leading to Maid-

ſtone,

ſtone, Canterbury and Dover; and at about four miles diſtance is a ſmall village, called

HADLOW,

affording nothing worthy of deſcription; to the left of which, and at about a mile diſtance, ſtands an ancient ſeat called

OXEN-HEATH,

belonging to William Geary, Eſq. ſecond ſon of Admiral Geary, (now the only ſurviving ſon) to whom the Kentiſh eſtate was left, in his infancy, by his mother's half brother Leonard Bartholomew, Eſq. This gentleman, by clearing the grounds about the houſe, has laid it open to a fine proſpect, which added to the improvements he has made to the houſe, pleaſure grounds, &c. render it altogether a pleaſing ſituation.

About two miles from Hadlow, keeping the ſame turnpike-road, on the left hand, a ſtranger is agreeably ſurprized with a view of

YOKES-PLACE,

belonging to, and the reſidence of William Daniel Maſter, Eſq. This ſeat in the 35th of Henry

Henry VIII. was ſold to Sir Edmund Walſingham, of Scadberry, whoſe great grandſon Sir Thomas Walſingham, married the widow of Nathaniel Maſter, ſecond brother of Sir Edward Maſter, of Eaſt Langdon, in Eaſt Kent) and ſold Yokes-Place to James Maſter, the ſon of the Lady Walſingham by her former huſband. In 1658 the old houſe was taken down, and the preſent manſion erected, about a furlong diſtant from the former, in a better ſituation. James Maſter left two ſons, who ſucceeded him in his eſtate in Yokes-Place: his eldeſt ſon died in 1728, and Richard in 1767, leaving William-Daniel (ſon of his eldeſt ſiſter) his heir; uſing with his own, the name and arms of Maſter. The grounds have lately been much improved, and the gardens laid out in the preſent taſte.

About a mile beyond Yoke's-Place, on the road towards Mereworth, to the right, is the little village of

EAST-PECKHAM.

Here was a preceptory belonging to the Knights of St. John of Jeruſalem, valued at 63l. 6s. 8d. It is not certain by whom this

was

was founded; Philipot ſays, it was by John Colepepper, in the time of Edward II. who appropriated it to the Templars, at whoſe ſuppreſſion in 1327, it fell with their other eſtates to the Hoſpitallers; but Speed and Weaver aſſert, that it was given by that John Colepepper, who was one of the Juſtices of the Common Pleas, in the Reign of Henry IV. which ſeems the more probable, becauſe it is not mentioned in the account of the Templars and Hoſpitallers lands in the Monaſticon, Tom. II.

Robert de Thorneham gave his eſtate in this Pariſh, to the Præmonſtratenſian Canons of Brokely, to found an abbey at Beaulieu, which was ſoon after incorporated with Begeham.

ROYDON-HALL.

An ancient ſeat, ſituate in Eaſt-Peckham, beforementioned, now belonging to Sir William Twyſden, a family of great note and property in that neighbourhood, who derived their name from the Saxons.

MEREWORTH.

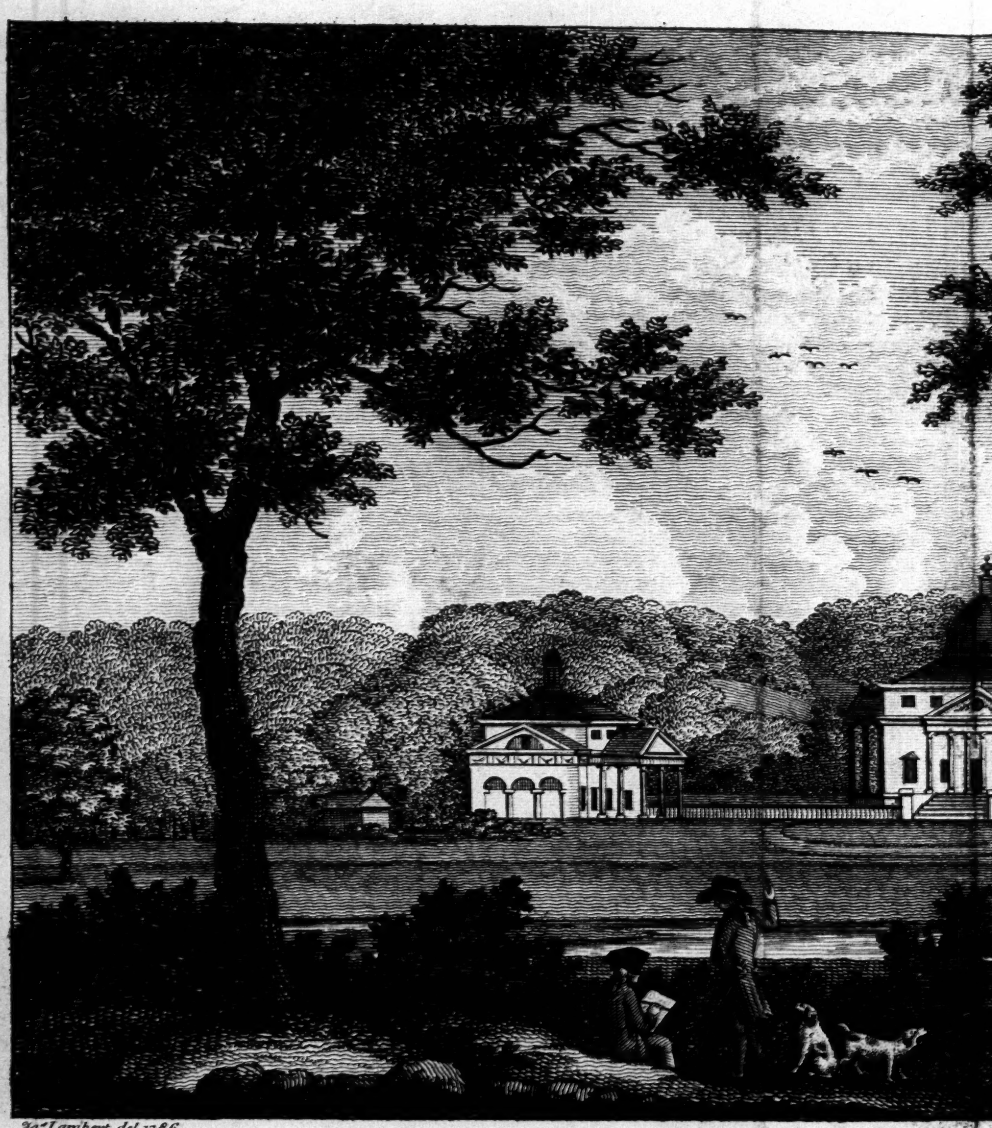
Mereworth is a moſt delightful and noble ſeat, lately deſcended, with the title of Lord le Deſpenſer, from the Earl of Weſtmorland to Sir Francis Daſhwood.

This place is about twelve miles from the Wells, and two from Eaſt-Peckham. It anciently gave name to an eminent family who held the manor near two hundred years, when it deſcended to the Malmains, Bohuns and Bambres, who built here a large and ſtrong houſe, reſembling a caſtle, which paſſed through the Earls of Arundel to the Lords Abergavenny, and from them to the le Deſpenſers, whoſe heir was the Lady Mary Fane, created Baroneſs le Deſpenſer by James I. and her ſon was created Earl of Weſtmorland by the ſame monarch.

This grand and magnificent houſe was, within theſe few years, erected by the laſt Earl of Weſtmorland, where the old Caſtle ſtood; and is built in an elegant ſtile of architecture, after a deſign of Colin Campbell's, in

imitation

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Ja.s Lambert del. 1786.

MEREWORTH

The Seat and Residence of the

Publish'd 1.st Oct. 1787, by J. Sp



H. Ashby sculp.

TH-PLACE, KENT.,

of the late Earl of Westmoreland.

787. by J. Sprange, Tunbridge-Wells.

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imitation of an admired edifice of the famous Palladio's in Italy.

The ſite of this noble houſe, (as Palladio ſays of the original) is as delightful and pleaſant as can be imagined. It is upon a ſmall hill of very eaſy aſcent, watered on one ſide by a ſtream running into the Medway, and on the other encompaſſed with the moſt agreeable riſings, which have the appearance of a grand rural theatre, cultivated and improved to the utmoſt perfection, ſo as at once to diſplay the correct taſte and the becoming magnificence of the late Earl of Weſtmorland; a nobleman, whoſe every action manifeſted a heart well-ſuited to his rank.

This fine ſtructure is an exact ſquare of eighty eight feet. In the middle there ariſes, above the roof, a cupola, which conſiſts of two ſhells; the one forms the ſtucco cieling of the hall, and the other is carpentry covered with lead. Between theſe two ſhells is a ſtrong brick arch that brings twenty-four funnels to the lanthorn, which contrivance prevents the appearance of any chimney on the outſide of the houſe. And as this delightful manſion enjoys moſt beautiful

views from every part, ſome of which are limited, ſome more extenſive, and ſome that terminate with the horizon alone: there are porticos made in all the four fronts, under the floor of which, and that of the hall, are rooms for the conveniency and uſe of the family. The grand ſaloon, which is round, is in the centre, and receives its light from above; the ſtate rooms divided off from it, open one into the other all round the houſe, and are ſuperbly furniſhed. The kitchen and ſtables form two noble wings, which add much to the grandeur of the building. In ſhort the houſe, the gardens, the temples, and grottos, the water, the woods, the lawns, ſeverally demand our admiration; and, as here united, beggar all deſcription.

The village of Mereworth itſelf, is of little eminence: it was held in chivalry by an entire knight's fee; and hath the grant of a free warren. It had once a weekly market, and an annual fair, obtained by Roger de Mereworth in the 28th of Edward I. but theſe have long been diſuſed, and indeed were never very conſiderable.

The

A

LIST

OF THE

PRINCIPAL PAINTINGS,

AT

MEREWORTH HOUSE.

PICTURE GALLERY. EAST END.

A DUTCH Lady in a chair, by Rembrandt.
Two Landſcapes.
Two Pieces of Battles, by Bourgignon,—
under each of them are,
Two Landſcapes, by Claude Lorain
A Sea Piece.
A Country Farm.
An Aſſumption.
A Boulognois Doctor.

West End.

A repreſentation of the deſtiny of Life.

A Subject in Taſſo's works.

Three Sketches of Berdenuchi, intended for a compartment in the chapel of Chandois Houſe.

A fine piece of ſome Ruins in Italy.

Another ditto.

A fine Landſcape Piece

The Triumphal Arch of Conſtantine the Great.

A fine buſt of Apollo, in marble.

A ditto of Bacchus.

A View of Windſow by Old Griſtier.

Next the Chimney.

A Landſcape, by Claude Lorrain.

Romulus and Remus, by ditto.

Flight into Egypt.

Over the Chimney.

Roman Antiquities, collected by Panini.

Other

Other Side of the CHIMNEY.

David Myten's Family.

A Sea Piece.

A Tempeſt.

Chriſt reſtoring the blind man to ſight, by Tintoretti.

A group of Lions.

A Country View.

A Dutch Piece, of children, &c.

Over the other CHIMNEY.

A View of the Amphitheatre, with other Roman Antiquities.

Next the CHIMNEY PIECE.

Two Landſcapes.

Chriſt with the Diſciples at Emmaus.

The cieling finely decorated with emblematical figures in five compartments, by Francis Sclater.

Yellow Dressing Room.

A Sea Piece.

Cieling decorated with emblematical figures by Sclater.

Two curious inlaid Marble Slabs, repreſenting cards, &c. laying thereon.

Dining Room.

Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Spencer.

Richard, youngeſt ſon of Robert Lord Spencer.

Francis Finch, ſecond ſon of Francis Earl of Weſtmoreland and Mary daughter and heireſs of Sir Anthony Mildmay, wife of Sir Francis Fane,—*both in one Piece.*

Mary, daughter and heireſs of Henry Neville, Lord Abergavenny, created baroneſs Le Deſpencer by King James the Firſt, and wife of Sir Thomas Fane, knt.

Mary, daughter of Horace Lord Vere, of Tilbury, wife of Mildmay, ſecond Earl of Weſtmorland.

Robert Spencer, created Baron Spencer by

by King James the firſt, whoſe daughter Elizabeth was married to Sir George Fane.

William, ſon of Robert Lord Spencer, who married Penelope, daughter of Henry Earl of Southampton.

Penelope, daughter of Henry Earl of Southampton.

Two Landſcapes.

Drawing Room.

Chriſt entering Jeruſalem.

A Landſcape over it.

The Samaritan Woman, a large piece over the chimney.

A Landſcape over the door, by Panini.

A Sea Piece.

St. Francis, by Guido Reni.

A Landſcape by Claude Lorrain.

Sigiſmunda.

Joſeph's Flight into Egypt, by Baſſano.

A Holy Family, by Perugino.

Noah after the Flood, by Baſſano.

Venus and Cupid, by Rubens.

Duke of Buckingham.

Sir Thomas Moore.

Four Doctors of the church.
A Head.
Lord Abergavenny, 1524.
The Marriage in Cana.
Sir Walter Raleigh.
Huſſars attacking a convoy.
The Holy Family.
View of a Fiſhery at Sea.
Two fine Marble Urns.

Best Bed Room.

A fine State Bed, richly ornamented.

The walls hung with very fine Tapeſtry.

The cieling ornamented with Emblematical Figures in painting, by Sclater.

Dressing Room *adjoining.*

The walls richly hung with tapeſtry, repreſenting the Four Quarters of the World.

The ceiling decorated with paintings, by Sclater.

The chimney piece curiouſly ornamented with marble pillars, &c.

The floor of the room very elegantly inlaid

The old church was ſituated near the caſtle, and is ſaid to have been built by the Earls of Clare, who at its foundation appropriated it to the knights of St. John of Jeruſalem. The Right Hon. John, Earl of Weſtmorland obtained a licence of the Biſhop of Rocheſter to pull it down, and build a new one; the foundation of which was laid in the year 1744; and it was conſecrated by the Biſhop of Rocheſter on the 26th of Auguſt 1746. This church is a very pretty piece of modern architecture, that will bear, and indeed richly deſerves, the attentive inſpection of the curious traveller. There are in it, ſeveral antique monuments of the noble families that formerly inhabited Mereworth Caſtle, which were carefully tranſferred from the old church to a place particularly appropriated to this purpoſe in the modern one.

A LIST

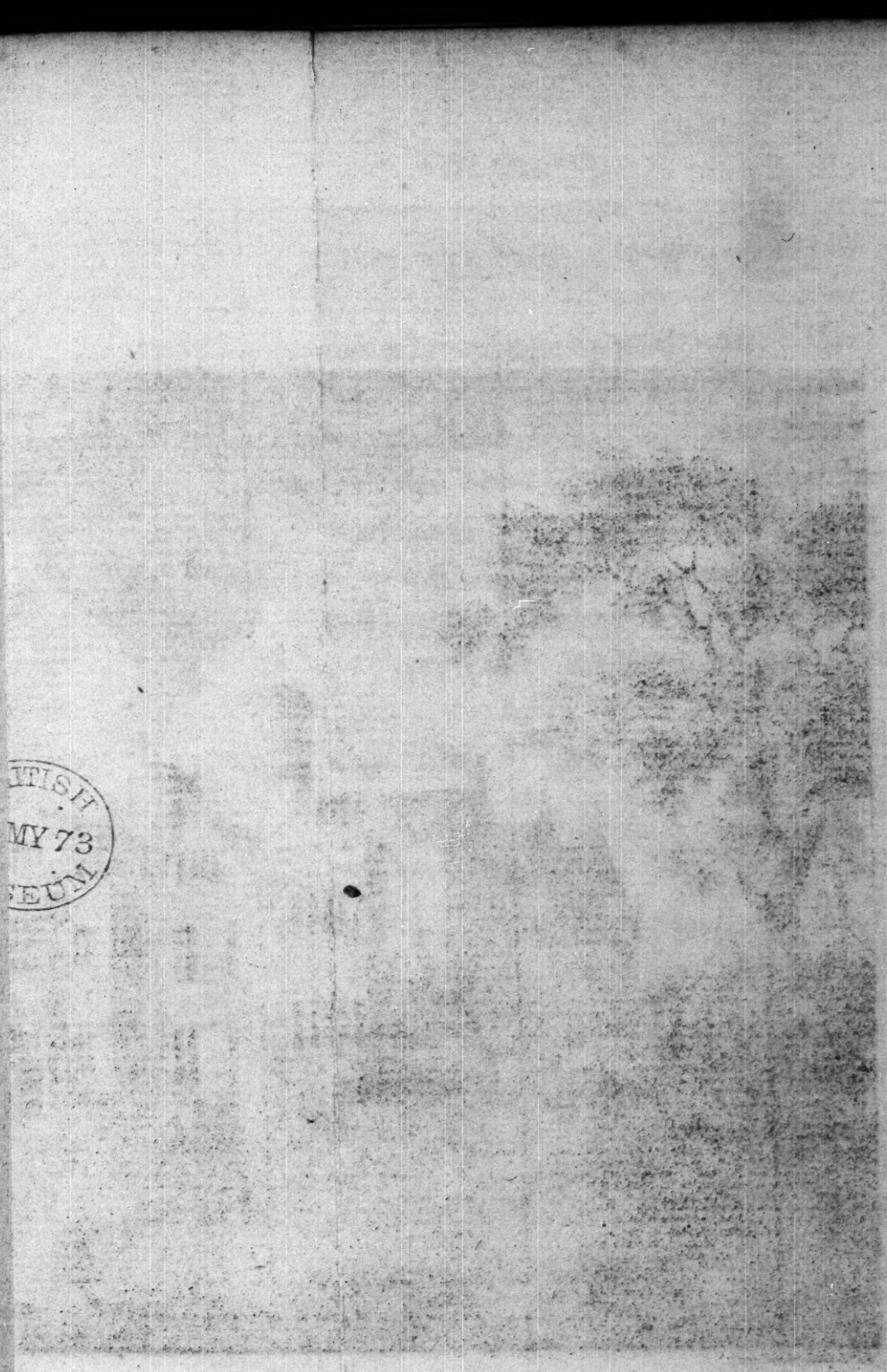
WATERINGBURY

Is a neat village about two miles from Mereworth, on the Maidſtone Road, adjacent to which, are ſeveral good houſes, the reſidence of families of note and property. The road from thence to Maidſtone, about ſix miles, is diverſified with rich proſpects, and abounds with ſeats and pleaſure grounds; through the midſt of which glides the river Medway.

The POWDER-MILLS,

Are ſituated about two miles from Somerhill—or, another road leads to them, from the Wells, turning to the right (off the London road) about two miles.

The ſpot of ground where theſe mills ſtand was purchaſed, and the mills erected, by an ingenious Carpenter at Tunbridge-Wells, a few years ſince, who formerly had worked at the famous powder mills at Battle in Suſſex: he was immediately joined in the undertaking by ſome gentlemen in the neighbourhood, to whom, ſoon after he had finiſhed them, he ſold


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Ja.s Lambert del. 1783.

SOMERHILL, *the Seat of*

Publish'd 1.st Oct.r 1783. by J. Sp



H. Ashby sc.

t of HENRY WOODGATE *Esq.r*

t.1783. by J. Sprange, Tunbridge-Wells.

ſold his ſhare. Adjoining to them is a fine ſheet of water, which is kept filled, and the mills thereby ſupplied, by a branch of the river Medway. The powder made there is of the fineſt ſorts, and ſuppoſed to be a good imitation of the Battle Powder. Thomas Hooker, Eſq. is one of the principal proprietors.

WOODSGATE,

Is a good inn, ſituate about two miles from the Wells, on the great road leading from London to Rye, Haſtings, &c. Mrs. Jarrett, the Landlady of this houſe has been at the expence of fitting up ſeveral rooms in it, on purpoſe for the reception of company, who in their airings on that road, frequently ſtop to drink tea, coffee, &c. From thence paſſing through the turnpike, leading to Tunbridge Town, and at about four miles diſtance ſtands

SOMERHILL,

Somerhill is a large old houſe, of a noble appearance at a diſtance, and makes one of the principal airings. This ſeat was antiently the reſidence of the Earls of Clare, Bailiffs of the

Chace

Chace of South-frith, or Foreſt of Tunbridge; and of courſe always went with the Caſtle till it was forfeited to the crown by Edward, Duke of Buckingham, in the reign of King Henry the Eighth. Queen Elizabeth gave it to the great Sir Francis Walſingham; and his daughter Frances, carried it ſucceſſively to her three huſbands—the incomparable Sir Philip Sidney, the unfortunate Earl of Eſſex, and Richard de Burgh, Earl of Clanrickard in Ireland, and St. Albans in England; whoſe heir at length was Margaret, Viſcounteſs Purbeck, a woman of a magnificent ſpirit, whoſe pomp and ſplendor is ſtill a ſubject of diſcourſe in the country; and who gave the ground on which the Chapel at Tunbridge-Wells is raiſed. After various other changes this eſtate came to the Woodgates, its preſent worthy poſſeſſor.

The ſtructure itſelf, notwithſtanding the ruinous ſtate it now is in, cannot fail of affording that gratification we always feel on ſurveying the venerable remains of Gothic antiquity. The country around it is ſo wildly beautiful, as to make it one of the moſt pleaſing romantic retirements in nature; and the ride from the Wells to this houſe, is on that account, extremely

tremely entertaining to an admirer of ſuch ſcenes. In Count Gramont's Memoirs are ſome entertaining anecdotes of *the then* noble inhabitants of this ſeat.

BAYHALL,

Situated in the pariſh of Pembury, three miles eaſt of Tunbridge-Wells, and about a mile from Woodſgate, leading from Pembury-Green, a little diſtance off the great road. An antient manor that once belonged to the Colepeppers, a family that was formerly of diſtinguiſhed eminence in this kingdom; one of them was Governor of Leeds Caſtle, in Kent, when Queen Iſabella, wife of Edward II. being on her pilgrimage to Canterbury benighted in that neighbourhood, ſent her marſhal forward to beg a lodging there; but the governor, more faithful to his lord than dutiful to his ſovereign, rudely refuſed admittance for the Queen or any of her retinue, unleſs ſhe could produce an expreſs order from Lord Badeleſmere, who was then abroad. The diſtreſſed queen, unwilling to believe ſhe could receive ſo barbarous an anſwer, went herſelf to the caſtle-gates, and there had the mortification to hear it confirmed by

the Governor in perſon. Upon this ſhe was obliged to take up with ſuch lodgings as ſhe could procure, but did not fail on her return, to make proper complaints to the king; who ſo warmly reſented this indignity, that inſtantly gathering an army together, he laid ſiege to the caſtle, carried it—hanged the Governor—and ſent Lady Badeleſmere and her children to the tower.

By this imprudence Bayhall was forfeited to the Crown, where it continued till Henry VI. granted it to the Duke of Buckingham; whoſe grandſon, Edward, forfeited it to Henry VIII. After this it was ſeveral times granted and again forfeited, till at length it came to Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurſt, whoſe ſucceſſors in a few years conveyed their right to the Amherſt family, in which it has ever ſince continued; being now poſſeſſed by the widow of Charles Brown, Eſq. who was deſcended by the female ſide from the Amherſts.

The preſent neat and convenient ſtructure was raiſed by Richard Amherſt, Eſq. who died in 1664, and is very pleaſingly ſituated in the midſt of fine meadows, gardens and fiſh-ponds.

Returning

Returning again from Bayhall, into the Lamberhurſt road, keeping which about a mile, you turn to the left; and at the diſtance then of about another mile, you come to

MATFIELD,

A ſmall pleaſant Green; ſurrounding which are ſeveral neat houſes, particularly one, with offices adjoining, and a piece of water in front, the property and reſidence of Mr. Marchant.

About a mile further on, brings you to the town of

BRENCHLEY.

Brenchley is ſituated about four miles from Lamberhurſt, and ſix miles eaſt of Tunbridge-Wells. This is a ſmall town, which was once part of the prodigious eſtate of the Earls of Clare; but at preſent it is not remarkable for any thing unleſs it be the manor of

BOKINFOLD,

The ſite of which is partly in this pariſh and partly in Goudhurſt. According to Philipot,

this manor was given by Hamon de Crevequer, to chauntries eſtabliſhed by him in each of theſe pariſhes, which grant was confirmed by Edward III. in the 41ſt year of his reign; but the general diſſolution lodged it in the hands of the Crown, after which being granted by King Henry VIII, to Paul Sidnore, Eſq. it deſcended into private hands, and became inſtrumental to better purpoſes than the maintenance of a few lazy monks.

The manſion houſe of Bokinfold was once ſurrounded with a park, and of ſome conſiderable eminence in the country; as appears from Edward II. repoſing here in the 18th year of his reign, when being determined to go over into France to do homage for his dutchy of Guienne, he had got ſo far on his journey before thoſe ſubtle propoſals * came over from Charles, which he unſuſpectingly agreed to; and thereby enabled his treacherous and luſtful queen to compleat his ruin. Before King Edward left this houſe, he cauſed ſeveral perſons to be indicted for unlawfully hunting in the park, and puniſhed them according to their demerits. This park has now been ſo many years incloſed

* Rapin, Vol. I. page 339.

incloſed and cultivated, that it is not eaſy to trace any marks of it; and the houſe has few remains of its antient grandeur left.

Leaving the pleaſant village of Brenchley, you proceed to Goudhurſt, the next market-town, about five miles diſtant; the road truly pictureſque, being diverſified with conſtant hills and dales, and in every valley moſt agreeable ſmall rills of water, and abounding with woods and timber. Many think this part too much incloſed, but the noble oaks that catch your eyes, (the great ſupport of the Engliſh navy (amply pays you for theſe neat but pleaſing proſpects. Continuing your journey for two miles on the right hand, you have the view of the plantations of that great and good man, Alexander Courthope, Eſq. a gentleman who was univerſally eſteemed in the county. It is now the reſidence of J. Cole Eſq. This houſe, call'd SPRIVES, you do not get a ſight of from the road; it is a ſmall modern building, the grounds in the front very neat, but the gardens puts you in remembrance of the taſte in King William's time. The eſtate, we believe, was purchaſed of the family of the Brown's, but has been in the poſſeſſion of the Courthopes for many years;

years; it is a ſmall manor within itſelf, in the pariſh of

HORSMONDEN.

On paſſing this place you immediately come to the village, which is built round a neat green, called the *Hoarth*, from the name of the manor; the cottages are of wood and loam, the ſame as are built in moſt parts of the encloſed counties; there is no kind of trade, but the poor are ſupported ſolely by working for the farmers.

The property of this village belongs to Mr. Auſtin, whoſe houſe you will ſee as you go on to Goudhurſt. The church is neat and well built, but is ſituated quite at the extremity of the pariſh; the reaſon of which is, that it is ſuppoſed to have been built by the family of the Brown's, their manſion being very near, and ſtill in being, called *Spelmonden*, and now belongs to Dr. Marriotte, who has a good eſtate in the neighbourhood, and likewiſe the advowſon of the church, being a rectory (of 400l. per annum.) and indeed the only one in theſe parts, the occaſion of which was as follows:

At the diminution of the monaſtries in the time of Henry VIII. John de Grovehurſt, then

then the Abbot of Bayham, and who was buried in this church, had influence ſufficient with Cardinal Wolſey to grant him this living, and to confirm it as a rectory; and it has continued ſo to this time. It is dedicated to St. ——, and in the dioceſe of Rocheſter.

A particular circumſtance is reported, and generally believed, relating to the longevity of the rectors of this pariſh; the four laſt of which, it is ſaid, have enjoyed the living two hundred years; but it is certain that the laſt two, Mr. Bates, and the late incumbent Mr. Haſſell, have held it one hundred and ſix years.

BROADFORD-HOUSE.

It ſtands near the road and belongs to Mr. Auſtin, whoſe family was formerly in the cloathing trade. It was a large pile of buildings, having many offices for workſhops, &c. which many of the preſent inhabitants remember, but they are now taken down. There is no tradition to whom it belong'd before the Auſtins, but ſuppoſe it part of the Colepepper eſtate; the ground about it has been lately much improved

proved. This, and the adjoining parishes were in the heart of the cloathing trade, particularly for the coarse grey cloth, but the business is now quite lost, as the north and west parts of the kingdom work it much cheaper. The militia of the county have taken the facings of their regimentals from the remembrance of their trade.

About two miles farther on, and at about eleven miles from Tunbridge Wells, stands the Town of

GOUDHURST.

The town of Goudhurst is situated on an exceeding high hill, commanding every way the most enchanting prospects that the wild imagination can paint. The air is salubrious, which often invites invalids to repair thither for the recovery of their health.

The church is a large handsome structure, situate at the upper part of the town; from the top of it you have an extent of prospect which terminates with the horizon only: the spire was once very lofty, but being destroyed by

by a dreadful ſtorm of thunder and lightning, on the 23d of Auguſt, 1637, (together with five large bells which were entirely melted, and the metal run into the town) it has never ſince been wholly rebuilt. A collection was made by brief, in this and other counties, and a pariſh rate fixed to repair the whole damage, but the inhabitants and the collectors having diſagreed, it has ſince that remained without a ſpire, but the ſteeple, excepting it, is now every way compleat, and contains a fine ſet of eight bells.

This church was originally dedicated to St. Mary, and appropriated to the priory of Leeds. In it are ſome remarkable good monuments, particularly of John de Bedgebury, of the Colepeppers, who became Lords of this manor by marriage with the heireſs of Mr. Campion, on Combwell; and one in the eaſt-wall of the north chancel, for a Mr. Roberts; they are all very antient, ſome being above three hundred years old. The wainſcot behind the communion table is uncommonly handſome, and there are ſome good remains of painted glaſs in the windows.

This town was the antient patrimony of the Bedgeburies, men of high extraction, and great renown, from whom a manor in this pariſh took its name. John de Bedgebury paid an aid for theſe lands, in the 20th year of the reign of Edward III. when the Black Prince was knighted. His grand-daughter and heir marrying with Thomas Colepepper, of Bayhall, in Pembury, who was ſheriff of Kent in the 18th of Richard II. brought this manor into his family.

Joan, widow of Roger de Bedgebury, procured (in the 3rd year of Richard II.) a weekly market to be kept in this town on Wedneſdays, on the low part of it, (but it was removed towards the end of the laſt century to the top of it, almoſt adjoining the church-yard, but is now removed again) and two fairs to be kept yearly.

The WOOLLEN MANUFACTORY

was eſtabliſhed here in the reign of Edward III. by the *Flemmings*, who taught his ſubjects the art of weaving broad-cloth, the moſt durable, with a variety and mixture of colours. This manufactory continued in a flouriſhing ſtate till within fifty years paſt, and many of the princi-

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pal inhabitants were largely concerned in it: one of whom, a Mr. Robert Tate, as late as the year 1725, had ten broad looms in conſtant work; that required two men to each loom, and one quil-winder; producing employ for fourteen ſcribblers, two ſorters, two ſcowerers and dyers, and four clothworkers. Ninety pounds weight of wool per week was uſed in each loom, which required eighteen women to do the ſpinning. At this time there were thirty looms in conſtant work in this pariſh, and within memory upwards of forty, which brought in great ſums of money weekly, and cauſed a great deal to be ſpent in trade. Each weaver's wages was then *eight ſhillings* per week. In the year 1727, a Mr. Henry Tricker made worſted and ſtocking yarn, and kept four narrow looms, wherein was wove Calamancos, Cambletts, Cloth-ſerges, Stuffs for gowns, &c. &c. at which he employed four wool-combers, one ſorter, one ſcribbler, four weavers and thirty ſpinners; ſince which time, theſe manufactories have gradually decayed. A Mr. Tanner, whoſe predeceſſors were eminent in the broad-cloth manufactory, was the only perſon who continued it on till within theſe few years.

The SMUGGLERS.

A deſperate gang of whom had long infeſted this town and neigbourhood; and in the year 1747, were arrived at that pitch of wantonneſs and cruelty, that they would frequently ride into the town in a large body—plunder the houſes of thoſe wherein they thought was moſt to be acquired, and whoever oppoſed, or even ſhewed a diſlike to it, their portion was either inſtant death, or the moſt violent tortures; which proved to be the fatal caſe of many innocent perſons. who, by endeavouring to ſecure their property, or protect their wives or their children from falling victims to their brutal luſt, were either ſavagely dragged and mangled ſo as to die under the torture of their wounds; or if they ſurvived, it was but to greater woe, in ſeeing their families ruined, and their effects totally carried off. In ſhort, all trade was at a ſtand, and many houſes entirely ſhut up; ſcarce any perſon would venture abroad even in the day-time, although in the evening, perhaps, they were dragged out.--A perſon from Tunbridge Wells, (Mr. *Ballard*) having occaſion to go that way, and paſſing through the town

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at mid-day, was robbed of thirty-nine pounds, his watch and ring, and then cruelly beaten; he was afterwards carried home, where he ſurvived but four hours.

Whilſt matters were at this pitch, it happened very luckily that a young man, (*W. Sturt*) a native, but who had ſerved ſome years in Lieutenant General Harriſon's regiment of foot, and was high in eſteem by his officers from his great perfectneſs in the different manuals and evolutions, and every art of war, which he had ſtrictly applied himſelf to; having procured his diſcharge, was juſt returned home, where hearing of the wicked proceeding of the ſmugglers againſt his friends and neighbours, he ſummoned a party of them together, and communicated his abhorrence of ſuch proceedings, and his earneſt wiſh to join a body, which he promiſed to head, and bind themſelves to ſtand up in defence of their town, by endeavouring to repulſe the ſmugglers. They returned him thanks for his reſolution—unanimouſly concurred in his propoſals—and immediately had articles drawn up, (April 17th, 1747) to which they reſpectively ſigned their names, agreeing to meet the enemy and fight them, as long as life

life remained. From that moment they ſtiled themſelves *The Goudhurſt Band of Militia*, acknowledging him for their General; and as ſuch, they bound themſelves to obey him. This was to have been kept a ſecret from the enemy, but by ſome treacherous or other means, they were apprized of it, and ſoon took an opportunity of way-laying one of the militia, whom they kept under confinement and torture till he would make a diſcovery of the reſt of their band, and what plan was intended againſt them: wearied with long-ſuffering he at length was compelled to reveal it; they then (after making him ſwear not to take up arms againſt them) releaſed him, and deſired him to acquaint his General, that they would (for his audacious attempt to repulſe them) go immediately and get together one hundred or more ſmugglers, and beſiege the town, on a certain day which they fixed; then plunder every houſe—murder every ſoul therein—and laſtly, ſet the whole town on fire. The General, on hearing ſuch intelligence, muſtered all his men—addreſſed them with a ſuitable ſpeech—and uſed every means to create animation in them, againſt the appointed dreadful day. He then ſet ſome men to caſt balls, whilſt others were ſent out

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to collect all the fire-arms, good and bad together, that were in the neighbourhood; and procured two hundred weight of powder, with which and the balls, he ſet to work and preſently made up a ſufficient quantity of cartridges, then fixed on a ſpot at the upper end of the town for the field of battle, (knowing the enemy intended coming in that way) barricading themſelves as well as the ſhort time allowed would admit of. On the morning of the day of battle, the militia aſſembled in their intrenchments, with their General at their head, who himſelf placed every man to his ſtation, and took care that each were properly ſupplied with a muſket, cartridges, &c. and then begging the aſſiſtance of God, to give them power to vanquiſh their enemies, they anxiouſly waited the appointed time, which the ſmugglers kept almoſt to a minute; when they were perceived to come galloping along, every one ſtripped to his ſhirt, with a handkerchief bound about his head, and furniſhed with a carbine, a brace of piſtols, hangers, &c. As ſoon as they arrived at the upper end of the town, they then halted, when their leader, *Kingſmell* by name, proclaimed aloud, " That he had been at the

" killing

" killing of forty of his Majeſty's officers and " ſoldiers, and ſwore that he would be d—d if " he did not broil four of their hearts, meaning " the town's people, and eat them for his ſup- " per." General *Sturt* had ordered his men to receive the firſt fire, (as they acted defenſively) which was ſoon after given from the Smugglers without effect; it was immediately returned by the militia, which killed one of the enemy: the firing on both ſides continued for ſome time very briſkly, till two more of the Smugglers were killed, and ſeveral wounded, which threw them into confuſion; they then precipitately left the field—were purſued—and ſome of them taken, who were afterwards brought to condign puniſhment. By this noble attack the town was preſerved, and the Smugglers entirely routed, ſo as not to be able to collect again. Mr. *Sturt*, the Militia General, gained thereby the eſteem of all his townſmen, as well as the thanks of all the gentlemen in the neighbourhood: who were the encouragers of him in this undertaking—defrayed the expence of it, and partook in the danger.

COMBWELL.

Situated about two miles wide of Goudhurſt, was a religious ſeminary of the order of St. Auguſtine, and founded by that munificent benefactor to the monks Sir Robert de Thorneham, in the reign of Henry II. This was firſt an abbey, but, its endowments being too ſmall to ſupport the ſtate and dignity of an abbot, it was ſoon reduced to a priory, and is, perhaps, the only inſtance of ſuch a reduction to be met with in the monaſtic hiſtory of this kingdom. The revenues of this houſe lay ſcattered about in ſeveral neighbouring pariſhes; and in Goudhurſt there was a ſmall convent of Nuns, which was principally ſupported by the charity of theſe Monks, who probably found it very convenient to have a cell of females ſo near them. This houſe was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and conſiſted of a prior and ſix canons. It was diſſolved at the general ſuppreſſion, and its valuation then eſtimated at 80l. 17s. 5d. per ann. In the 29th of Henry VIII. it was granted to Thomas Colepepper, and is now converted into a good farm houſe.

Proceeding from Goudhurſt, about two miles on the turnpike-road to Cranbrook, ſtands

GLASTENBURY,

A ſeat belonging to his Grace the Duke of St. Albans, which place ought not to be forgotten, ſince it is of ſo great a name elſewhere; and is called as the other, from *Glaſtney*, the Saxon idiom of *Inis Witrin*, the watry or glaſſy place. The houſe which ſtands in a park, is moated about, and environed with fine woods, gardens and pleaſure grounds, with ſeveral ponds, exceedingly well ſtocked with fiſh; at the upper end of the bowling green, is an elegant imitation of a Chineſe temple, with a ſpacious room underneath it for drinking tea; and at the termination of a fine ſhady walk, leading through a double row of tall trees, kept cut in imitation of thoſe at Vauxhall, is a ſpring of clear chalybeate water, reſembling them at *Tunbridge-Wells*. Leading from this ſpring are ſeveral pleaſing, ſhady, meandring walks, cut through the extent of ſeveral fine woods adjoining.—The whole together forms one of the moſt pleaſing, rural theatres in nature: and the

eſtate

eſtate is reckoned to contain as fine a growth of timber as any in the county.

A genealogical account of the family of the Roberts's, whoſe ſeat and reſidence this place has been for many centuries paſt, is judged will prove entertaining to our readers.

William Rookhurſt, alias Dictus Roberts, a gentleman of Scotland, was the firſt Britiſh anceſtor of the noble family of the Roberts, of Glaſtenbury in Cranbrook, Kent: who leaving his native country, came unto Goudhurſt, a pariſh adjacent to Cranbrook, in 1103, being the third year of the reign of King Henry I. and there built and purchaſed certain lands on a hill in Goudhurſt, called Winchett Hill, and afterwards named the Lands and Den—Rookhurſt, after his own name; which Den ſtill retaineth that name.

The name and family of Rookhurſt, alias Roberts, continued in the pariſh of Goudhurſt till the reign of K. Richard II. being 274 years. Then one Stephen Roberts, Eſq. the third Stephen of that family, married the daughter and heireſs of William Tillye, Eſq. to whom

the manor and lands of Glaſtenbury in right belonged, and built a fair ſumptuous houſe on the hill of Glaſtenbury; which came by lineal deſcent to one Walter Roberts, the 9th ſquire by ſucceſſion, who in 1472 rebuilt that houſe; and in 1473, built the now-ſtanding moated houſe in the valley of Glaſtenbury, which came to his ſon Walter Roberts, the 10th ſquire, &c. who was diſſeized of his eſtate, and forced to fly into ſanctuary, for endeavouring to conceal his friend and neighbour, John Guii Deforde, from that cruel Prince King Richard III. but was reſtored on the acceſſion of Henry VII. and became Sheriff of Kent, in 1488. This gentleman had three wives:—Margaret, the daughter of John Penn, Eſq.—Iſabel, daughter of Sir John Colepepper—and Alice, daughter of Richard Nailor, Eſq. who had iſſue by him, ſeveral children; of whom the eldeſt ſon was Thomas, the 11th ſquire, &c. and to whom Glaſtenbury eſtate came. He was made Sheriff of Kent, in the 25th of Henry VIII. This Thomas married the daughter of Sir James Fremming, of the county of Suffolk; who had iſſue one ſon, Walter Roberts, the 12th ſquire; to whom Glaſtenbury eſtate became.—He mar-

ried

ried two wives:—Catherine, daughter of Geo. Fane, Eſq. of Badſell, in the county of Kent—and Frances, daughter and co-heireſs of John Maynard, Eſq. Sheriff of London; who had by him ſeveral children, of whom the eldeſt ſon was Thomas, the 13th ſquire, by lineal deſcent; to whom Glaſtenbury eſtate came. He was knighted in 1603—made baronet in 1620—and Sheriff of Kent in 1623. He had two wives:—Frances, daughter of Marten James, of Smarden, in Kent; who had by him ſeveral children, of whom the eldeſt ſon was Sir Walter Roberts, the 2nd Baronet.—His ſecond wife was Elizabeth, the daughter and heireſs of Matthew Rowland, of St. Giles in the Fields, Middleſex; who had by him ſeveral children, of whom the eldeſt ſon was Sir Rowland, the 3rd Baronet, who married the daughter and heireſs of Sir Robert Joceline, Bart. of Hide-hall, in the county of Hertford; and had by him ſeveral children, of whom the eldeſt ſon was Sir Thomas the 4th baronet; who married the daughter and heireſs of Sir John Beale, Bart. of Farningham in Kent; who had by him ſeveral children, of whom the third ſon was Sir Walter Roberts, the 6th baronet; he married

married Elizabeth, the daughter of William Slaughter, Eſq. of Rocheſter in Kent; and had by him two daughters;—Elizabeth—and Jane, the late Ducheſs of Hunton Pariſh, deceaſed; by whoſe marriage with the Duke of St. Albans, this eſtate is now become his property.

The Succeſſion by Lineal Deſcent.

1 Wm. Rookhurſt, &c. Step. Roberts, Eſq.
9 Walter Roberts, Eſq.
10 Walter Roberts, Eſq.
11 Thomas Roberts, Eſq.
12 Walter Roberts, Eſq.
13 Sir Thomas Roberts, 1ſt Baronet.
14 Sir Walter Roberts, 2nd Baronet.
15 Sir Rowland Roberts, 3rd Baronet.
16 Sir Thomas Roberts, 4th Baronet.
17 Sir Walter Roberts, 6th Baront.

Seventeen generations by male ſucceſſion; eighteen, including Jane.

A LIST

A LIST OF THE PAINTINGS AT *GLASTENBURY*, THE SEAT OF His Grace the Duke of *St. Albans*.

Drawing Room.

* A Defert Piece, by *A. Conink.*

* King Charles I. and Charles, Prince of Wales.

Henrietta Maria of France, Wife of King Charles I. and James, Duke of York.

Billiard Room.

* James Stewart, Duke of York.

* James Scott, Duke of Monmouth.

* King William III.

* Henry

* Henry Frederick, Prince of Wales, eldeſt Son of King James I.

* Rupert, Count Palatine of the Rhine.

* Aubry de Vere, the 20th, and laſt Earl of Oxford of that Name.

* George Villers, Duke of Buckingham.

* John Sheffeild, Earl of Mulgrave; and afterwards Duke of Buckingham and Normanby.

* Henry Jermyn, Earl of St. Albans.

* Thomas Butler, Earl of Oſſory.

* William Henry Naſſau, Prince of Orange.

* Charles Stewart, Duke of Richmond and Lenox.

* Mrs. Eleanor Gwyn—Charles Beauclerk, Duke of St. Albans—James Lord Beauclerk.

* A Chimney-piece.

☞ *Theſe Pieces are all Full-length Pictures, in rich gilt frames, eight feet long.*

STUDY.

* Three Flower Pieces.

* A Landſcape.

* A ſmall Portrait, in Crayon:—*Van Dick Fece il Campiglea Sedler del Redi*, 1710.

* A Ditto, &c.

* A Ditto, &c.

BREAK-

Breakfast Room.

* Painting, exhibiting a repreſentation of Noah's Ark after the Flood, the unloading of it, and induſtry that takes place.

* Eight fine Paintings of Flower Pieces, in elegant gilt frames.

A curious ſmall Cabinet, work'd with ſilk on the outſide, with Scriptural Repreſentations.

Duke's Bed Chamber.

* Lady Mary Vere, Mother to the preſent Duke of St. Alban's †.

* Charles Beauclerk, preſent Duke of St. Albans †.

* Henrietta Maria of France, Wife of King Charles I.

* Fair Roſamond with the Cup of Poiſon in her Hand.

Gallery.

* Fine Painting of the inſide of the Dome of St. Peter's at Rome.

* Five beautiful Views of different Parts of Rome, *done in a very maſterly manner.*

* Two fine Pieces of Game, by *J. Bogdani.*

One of the Roberts Family, and five of his Sons.—*Separate Pieces.*

Sir Walter, and Lady Roberts; Father and Mother to the late Ducheſs of St. Albans.

Ducheſs of St. Albans.

YELLOW DAMASK ROOM.

* Henry Fitzroy, Duke of Grafton. †

Over the Door is

Sir Rowland Roberts, and his Lady; Great Grandfather and Grandmother to the late Ducheſs of St. Albans.

Miſs Elizabeth Roberts, and Miſs Jane Roberts, (late Ducheſs of St. Albans) and her Siſter, when Girls. †

Mr. and Mrs. Slatter;—Grandfather and Grandmother to the late Ducheſs of St. Albans.

* Lord George Beauclerk, and Lady Diana Beauclerk; the preſent Duke of St. Albans and his Siſter, when Children.

* Mrs. Loſtus. †

A curious Piece of Cabinet Work.

Lady's Room.

Sir Thomas, and Lady Roberts; Uncle and Aunt to the late Ducheſs of St. Albans.

Mr. and Mrs. French; Uncle and Aunt to Lady Roberts. †

Mr. and Mrs. Pickering; Friends to Sir Tho. and Lady Roberts.

Maid's Room.

Leanore Mainarde, the firſt of the Roberts Family.

John Wilmot, Earl of Rocheſter.

Nursery.

* Gregory Haſcard, Dean of Windſor. †

Hortenſia Mancini, Ducheſs of Mazarin. †

King Henry VIII.

King Henry's Chaplain.

Steward's Room.

* Three Scripture Pieces.

* Two of the Duke's favourite Dogs.

Servants Hall.

* The Wife of Quintin Matſys, the Blackſmith and Painter, of Antwerp. †

* Muſtapha. †

* Charles Wife.

☞ *Thoſe with a * were brought from the Duke's Apartments at Windſor Caſtle, lately ſold to the Crown; and thoſe marked with a †, at the end ſignifies whole lengh Pictures.*

About two miles from Glaſtenbury brings you to the town of

CRANBROOK.

Cranbrook is a pleaſant town, ſurrounded by fine woods and ſhady groves. This is a very extenſive pariſh, healthy, populous, and noted for cheapneſs of proviſions of the beſt kind. This was the firſt place in England where the Flemings, encouraged by the royal munificence of Edward III. in the 10th year of his reign, taught his ſubjects the art of weaving broad-cloth, with a variety and mixture of colours, unknown to them before. This patriotic and warlike king, ſenſible of the importance of this ſtaple commodity, granted to theſe induſtrious manufacturers ſuch rewards and immunities, that Cranbrook became, under his auſpicious reign, the ſeat of uſeful arts and mercantile opulence. Queen Elizabeth, whoſe active genius and manly ſoul, equally ſhone in war, politics, commerce and letters, to give further encouragement to a branch of trade ſo eſſential, eſtabliſhed here a Grammar School, which ſhe honoured with a Charter. The lands aſſigned to this inſtitution, though at firſt

of

of an inconſiderable value, have, of late years, brought in a ſufficient income to ſtimulate the talents and diligence of ſeveral learned and reverend men, in raiſing this nurſery of polite literature, to a competition with our modern academies. The ſchool-houſe is ſpacious, neat and convenient.

The Woollen Manufactory, which is now in a languid and declining ſtate, may, with the propitious endeavour of government, be reſtored to its former flouriſhing condition; as cheapneſs and plenty are the greateſt incentives to activity and induſtry.

Here is the greateſt market, in theſe parts, kept on Saturday.

A beacon was ſet up here in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Part of this town was formerly paved for the conveniency of the inhabitants, and of thoſe who reſorted to it. The pavement was begun in 1654, and compleated in 1657. At the ſame time the market-place was enlarged, and made more convenient.

The Church, which is a fine old ſtructure, ſand with that of Goudhurſt, are the two handſomeſt

handſomeſt within-ſide of any in the country) is dedicated to St. Dunſtan; in it are ſeveral monuments of the Roberts's, Lords of Glaſtenbury; of the Bakers, of Siſinghurſt; and the Cookes.

The chancel of this church was built by Walter Roberts, Eſq. whoſe name remains in the eaſt-window of it. Upon the ſteeple are the arms of three families, antiently of great note in this pariſh:—The Berhams, owners of Siſinghurſt; Betenhams, Lords of Betenham; and the Wilfords, proprietors of Hartridge.

Several antient coins, particularly ſome in the reign of Edward III. have been found in this place; and lately was ploughed up in a field, a curious gold coin, as broad as a crown piece, of very pure metal: It is an Engliſh coin, with the figure of a ſhip on one ſide, and on the other, the Arms of England, with the word TRANSIVIT only legible.

The towns of Cranbrook and Goudhurſt, with the neighbouring ſeats, are the more enlarged upon, on account of their being the moſt frequent airings, taken by the polite circle who

honour

honour *Tunbridge-Wells* with their reſidence during the ſummer ſeaſon; and likewiſe to deſcribe the origin and progreſs of the Woollen Manufactory in England, how, and where it was firſt introduced.

HEMPSTED,

A fine old manſion, ſituate about two miles from Cranbrook, in a woody country, that affords a great variety of pleaſant walks. It belonged about the 20th year of Henry III. to Robert de Hempſted; and about the beginning of Edward III. it paſſed away to Echingham, of Suſſex: and James de Echingham held it by the fourth part of a Knight's fee, in the 20th of Edward III. at making the Black Prince a Knight. It afterwards paſſed into the hands of Sir Robert Belknap the Judge, about the beginning of Richad II. It next went to the Crown, and again into private hands. Of late years it has been in the poſſeſſion of John Norris, Eſq. whoſe father was Deputy Governor, and Captain of Deal Caſtle; was alſo a repreſentative in parliament for the town and port of Rye.—John Norris is ſon and heir of John Norris, Eſq. and grandſon of Sir John Norris,

Norris, Bart. who purchaſed this eſtate of the heirs of Sir Robert Guildford;—it was ſold afterwards by his grandſon to —— Hodges, Eſq. the preſent proprietor; who has ſince made great improvements there.

The next ſeat of note in this neighbourhood is

SISINGHERST.

Siſingherſt is ſituate about two miles beyond Cranbrook, and ſeventeen from Tunbridge-Wells. It is reaching beyond our intended boundary in this little work, yet on account of its antiquity, and the good road leading to it, it was deemed worthy of a ſhort deſcription.

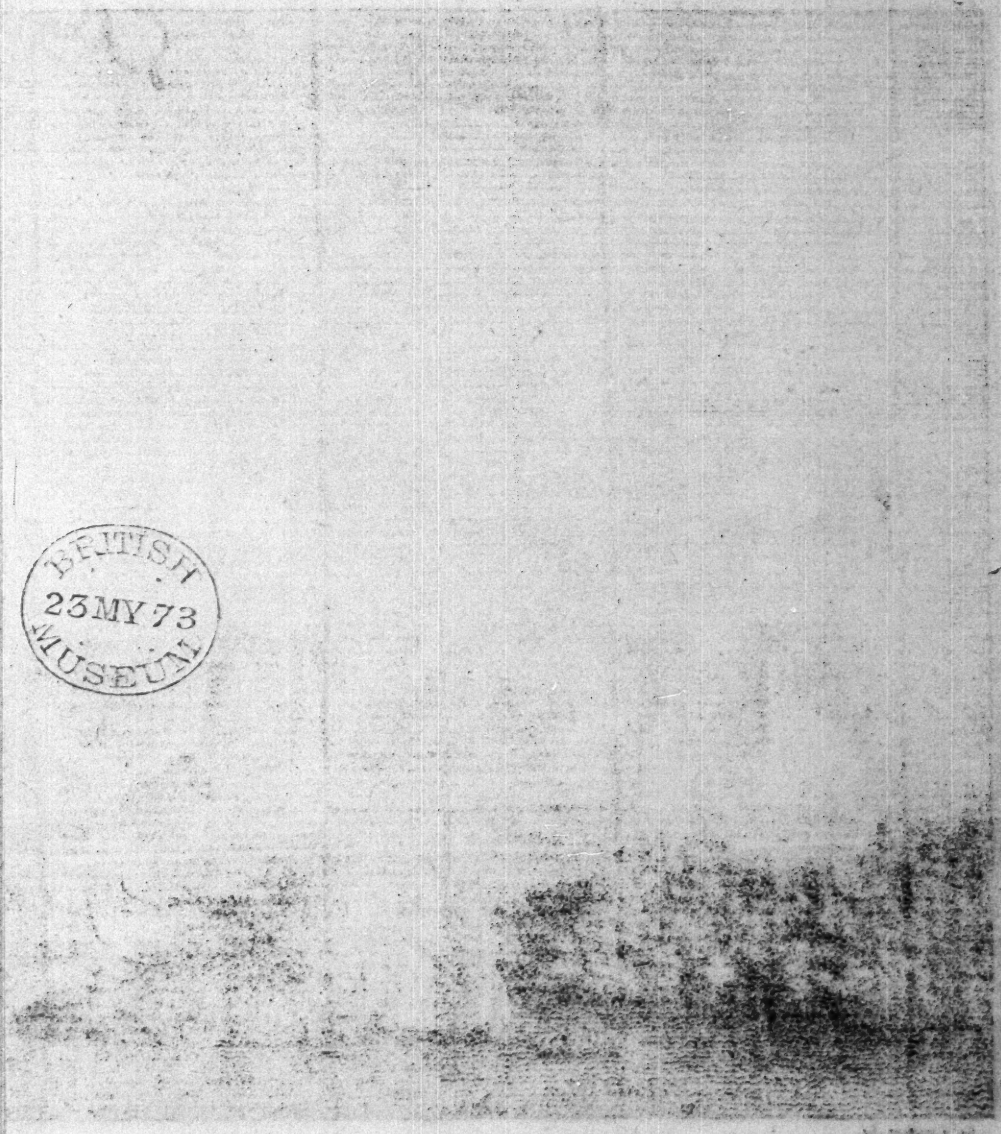
It is a caſtellated manſion, antiently called Saxonherſt, from the antient owners of this demeſne. By the marriage of the female heir of the Saxonherſt, this eſtate was transferred to the Berhams, ſeveral of whom were men of great note. It continued in this family till the reign of Henry VIII. when part of it was ſold to Mr. Thomas Baker, father of Sir John Baker, Attorney-General, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Under Treaſurer in Queen Mary's reign, who purchaſed the other part, and built that magnificent pile which charmed the eyes

of ſpectators; it is ſeated in a large area, inclosed with high walls, in the middle of a park. Sir John Baker, a deſcendant of the Attorney-General before-mentioned, rebuilt the old chapel, which was founded by John de Saxonherſt, he had it conſecrated in 1637; and after his deceaſe, he left the eſtate to his four daughters. This caſtle was once hired by Government to confine the French priſoners in, and contained 2500 of them at leaſt; during which, this place was the daily reſort of many hundred ſpectators, who came far and near to viſit it: ſeveral ſhops and eating houſes were erected near it, and a body of military were conſtantly kept there as a guard, and a camp pitched for them in the park ſurrounding it.

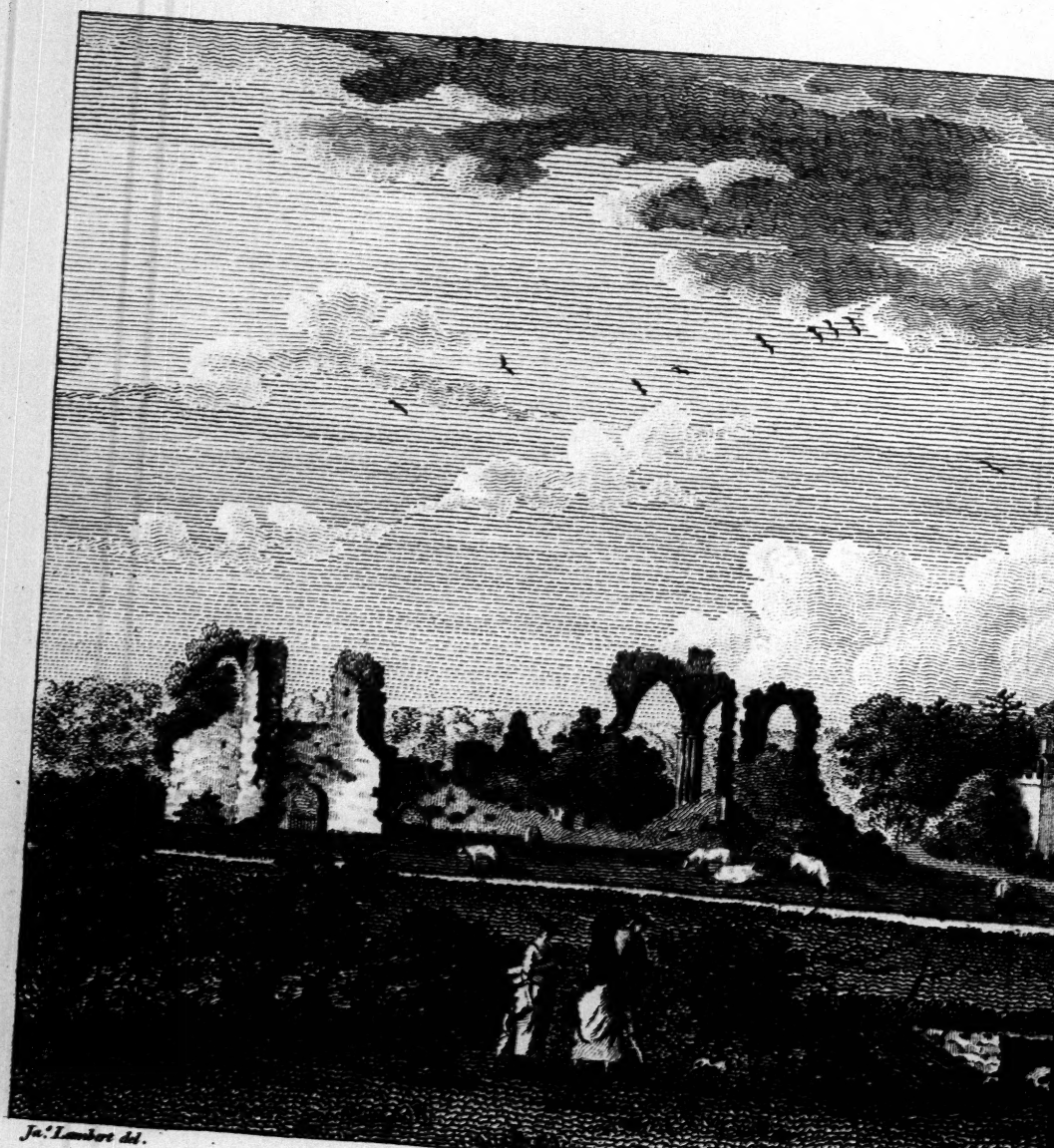
Setting out from the Wells again, towards the ſouth, you come firſt to

FRANT.

Frant is about two miles from the Wells. The church is erected on a very high hill, and is a vicarage in the gift of the rector of Rotherfield; to which, in antient time it was a chapel. This green is ſurrounded with ſeveral neat and modern



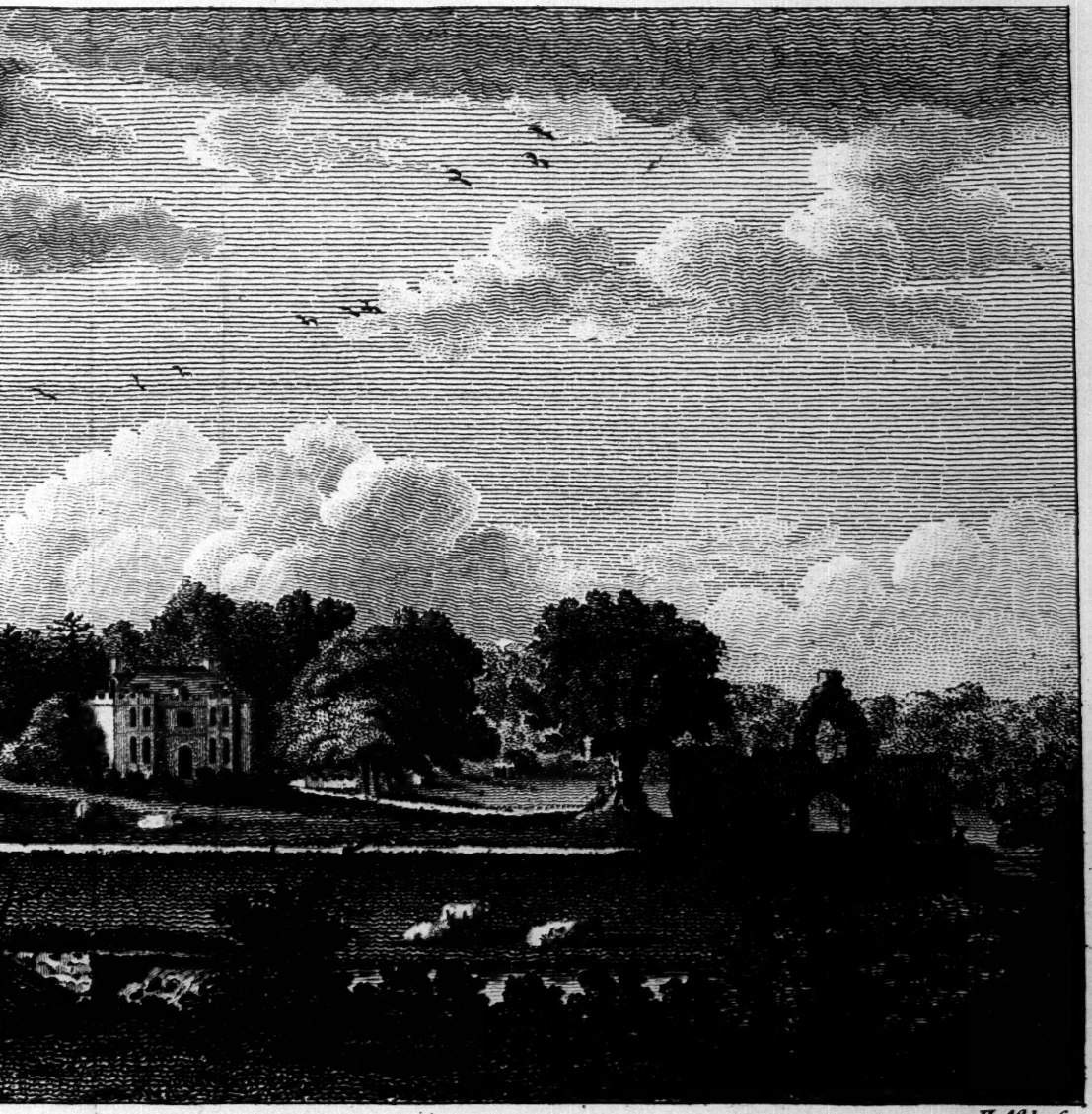
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MUSEUM



Ja.s Lambert del.

A View of Bayham Abbey in Sus

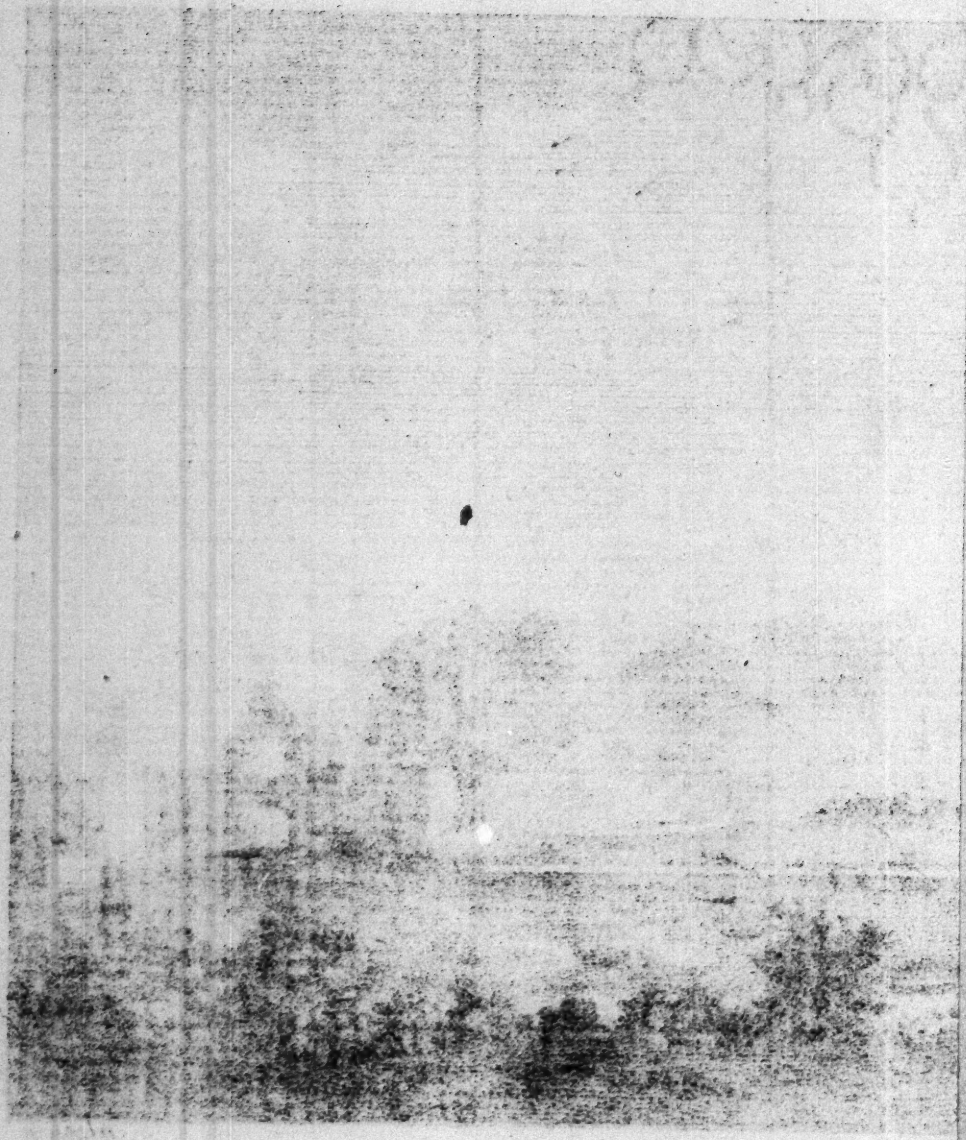
Publish'd 1.st Oct.r 1782. by J. Spran



H. Ashby sc.

in Sussex; the Seat of John Pratt Esq.r

ct.r 1782. by J. Sprange Tunbridge Wells.



modern built houſes, forming altogether a pretty village.—The firſt good houſe, as you enter it on the left-hand, was late the reſidence of the clergyman, and at the other end of it is another, belonging to a Mr. Budgen, timber-merchant, the front of which commands a fine proſpect towards the South-downs, and from behind, a yet more extenſive one; on a clear day in particular, with a glaſs, the cliffs of Dover, and the neighbouring ones are eaſily diſcerned.

Here is an exceeding good inn, with rooms fitted up for the reception of genteel company; and where families frequently ſtop at to drink tea, and walk round the green, enjoying the much admired varying proſpects.

Proceeding hence, to the left, at the diſtance of four miles, is

BAYHAM-ABBEY.

Bayham-Abbey, or more properly Begeham-Abbey, is ſituated on the borders of Kent and Suſſex, about ſix miles ſouth-eaſt of Tunbridge-Wells; and was a religious ſociety of Premonſtratenſian or White Canons, which order was

firſt inſtituted about the year 1120, at Premontre in France. They were called White Canons from their habit, which was a white caſſock with a rochet over it, and a long white cloak. Theſe Canons were introduced into England in 1146, and had twenty-one religious houſes in this kingdom; the laſt of which was founded at Titchfield in Hampſhire, in the reign of King Henry III. And Biſhop Burnet informs us, that the firſt reſignation of any religious houſe that he could find upon record, previous to the act for ſuppreſſing the leſſer monaſtries, was of a priory of this order at Langdon in Kent.

This priory of Bayham was originally founded at Stoneacre, in the pariſh of Otham, near Maidſtone in Kent, by Ralph de Dene; but the Canons had not been long ſettled at Stoneacre, before they began to make very heavy complaints of the unhealthineſs of the ſituation, and the ſcarcity of proviſions for their ſuſtenace; which, whether juſtly founded or not, ſo wrought on the compaſſionate diſpoſition of Ela de Sackville, of Buckhurſt, the daughter and co-heireſs of the ſaid Ralph de Dene, that ſhe tranſplanted them to Begeham; building them

them a capacious priory in honor of St. Mary, upon a piece of ground given for that purpoſe by Sir Robert de Thorneham, in the reign of Richard I.

Bayham was largely endowed by Ralph de Dene and his nephew, and particularly by the before-mentioned Ela, and her ſon Geoffrey de Sackville; which endowments were continually increaſed by their pious patrons the Sackville family, who for ſome ages were buried there. Theſe donations were all confirmed, and ſome conſiderable emoluments added to the canons, by ſeveral charters from King John, Henry the Third, and Edward the Second.

But, nevertheleſs, it was the fate of this priory to be included amongſt the firſt of thoſe that were diſſolved by Cardinal Wolſey, to build and endow his colleges at Ipſwich and Oxford. Its valuation, at this ſuppreſſion, was eſtimated at 152l. 19s. 4d. halfpenny per annum.

The ruins of Bayham are kept in very good order by the preſent proprietor, John Pratt, Eſq. nephew of the right honourable Lord Camden. This gentleman has lately built a very neat

houſe

houſe upon the ſpot in the gothic manner, which judiciouſly preſerves an uniformity of effect, through the whole of this venerable ſcene.

A ſtream of the river Medway runs cloſe by this abbey, and paſſes through a little town called Lamberhurſt, in its way to Yalding, where it joins the main river.

On BAYHAM-ABBEY.

A POEM.

Be huſh'd, ye fair! your monitor ſurvey,
That awful living legend of the day;
Tread ſoft, nor rudely preſs the hallow'd ground,
Where all is ſacred myſtery around:
Where nodding reaſon muſt perforce awake,
Where paſſion ſleeps while mould'ring ruins ſpeak;
Where ſilence can ſome uſeful leſſons teach,
And pour forth all the energy of ſpeech.
Think underneath you tread ſome friend ador'd,
Whoſe jocund ſoul once bleſs'd the ſocial board;
Now play'd the hero's, now the lover's part,
Now, for his country bled, now, ſtole a heart.
He's gone!---cold death inexorably juſt,
Strikes the dread blow; frail man returns to duſt.
Methinks I hear ſome furrow'd monk relate
What frenzy urg'd to BAYHAM's ſtill retreat;
With vain regret in penſive mood declare
I fought at Agincourt---my trade was war;

The

The path to fame with eager zeal purſu'd,
But ſunk a victim to ingratitude;
Then quitting honor and ambition's road,
Sought an aſylum in the houſe of GOD.

Another monk, by tottering age oppreſs'd,
With fault'ring tongue diſburthens thus his breaſt;
I figured once a Beau, and flatter'd too,
Each cred'lous fair, as you and others do;
To all alike vow'd conſtancy, and ſtrove
To fix each heart unpractis'd yet in love;
Till genuine ardor warm'd my breaſt at laſt,
And diſappointment paid me for the paſt.
Thus robb'd of all that paſſion reckons dear,
Compunction touch'd my ſoul and fix'd me here;
The curtain drops---my vain purſuits are o'er,
And life's gay proſpect now enchants no more.

Yon Fryar, perchance the idol of an hour,
Once rul'd ſupreme in dignity and power.
A miniſter of ſtate; what ſtate is worſe?
The prince's favorite, but the nation's curſe;
The people's tyrant, but ambition's ſlave,
Now, doom'd to damn the ſtate, and now to ſave;
Till tired of faction's perſecuting hoſt,
By friends betray'd, that once had flatter'd moſt;
He ſeeks like wearied travellers an home,
And adds one ſaint to BAYHAM's ſacred dome.

To this grave moral then, ye fair attend,
Life and its pleaſures ſoon muſt have an end;
One gen'ral ſummons, hence we all obey,
One fate abſorbs this tenement of clay.

Man

Man in his ſtrength, and beauty in its prime,
Float but as bubbles on th' expance of time;
An airy ſound that nought of ſubſtance wears,
A viſion that enchants, then diſappears.
Clad all in regal pomp, e'en princes muſt
Mix undiſtiguiſh'd with the peaſant's duſt;
Heroes together with the coward lie,
And beauty mingle with deformity.
Man ſtruts awhile, by pageant folly dreſt,
A monarch, ſoldier, politician, prieſt;
Each acts his part, and when the ſcene is o'er,
Muſt tread that path which others trod before;
To tyrant death, e'en youth and beauty bow,
And rich and poor alike, receive the blow.

LAMBERHURST-

LAMBERHURST-FURNACE.

Is ſituated about two miles beyond Bayham Abbey, and one and a half from Lamberhurſt, on the verge of the county of Suſſex, bordering Kent. It was built by a Mr. Benge, and juſt at the time of its being finiſhed, and beginning to work, it was honoured by a viſit from Queen Anne and the Duke of Glouceſter, at the time ſhe reſided at Tunbridge-Wells, from which circumſtance they named it Glouceſter Furnace, and it is ſo called to this day. This undertaking, though laudable, was not ſucceſsful to Mr. Benge, who failed juſt as he had brought it to perfection. It then paſſed into the hands of a Mr. Gott, and was lett to Meſſieurs Legas and Harriſon, gentlemen of the county, who as well as others, that have ſince rented it, carried the work on with vigour and ſucceſs. From that time, till within theſe few years, cannon have been caſt there for the ſervice of the navy, and it was one of the principal furnaces in England. The iron ſtone which ſupplied it, was dug in the neighbourhood. A circumſtance

worthy of remark is, that at this furnace was caſt the iron baluſtrade which now environs St. Paul's church, and which is allowed to exceed in magnificence any other throughout the univerſe: theſe baluſtrades being five feet ſix inches high, and amounting to the number of 2500, which, with the ſeven beautiful iron gates that belong to it, weigh two hundred tons and eighty one pounds; which upon a nice calculation, being charged at ſixpence per pound, and adding thereto ſome neceſſary incidental expences, coſt the ſum of 11,202 l. 6d. This account was taken from the books belonging to the furnace.

LAMBERHUST.

The town of Lamberhurſt is only remarkable for being the great thoroughfare to Rye and Haſtings; but, as the company uſually ride over the Foreſt from the Wells to Bayham, to return back by this turnpike road, may afford an acceptable variety.

COURT-LODGE.

The ſeat of the late Thomas Morland, Eſq. is a moſt delightful ſpot, ſituate near the upper end of

of Lamberhurſt, and cloſe by the turnpike road leading to Tunbridge-Wells. In the reign of Edward III. it belonged to the Crown, or one of the neighbouring abbeys; from which time, till the 10th year of Queen Elizabeth, (when it is diſcovered to have been in the poſſeſſion of Sir Henry Sidney) hiſtory furniſhes us with no account of it. In the reign of James I. it was in the poſſeſſion of Lord Liſle; and in the reign of Charles I. it was in the poſſeſſion of Mr. John Porter, who built the preſent houſe juſt by where the former ſtood. His daughter married Sir John Hanby, into whoſe poſſeſſion it next came; and Lady Hanby, the laſt ſurvivor, gave it by will to a Mrs. Elizabeth Chaplin, a near relation. It was next purchaſed, in the latter part of the reign of George I. by William Morland, Eſq. at whoſe death it came to his ſon Thomas Morland, Eſq. the late poſſeſſor; who has within theſe few years, greatly added to the ſize and ornament of the building, and furniſhed it in a very neat manner; which, with the additions of pleaſure grounds, gardens, and other improvements, laid out ſo as to diſplay the correct taſte of the owner, added to its being ſituated on a fine hill of very eaſy

aſcent, watered on one ſide by a ſtream of the river Medway, and on the other encompaſſed with the moſt agreeable riſings, renders it altogether a moſt deſirable reſidence.

FINCHCOCKS,

Is a place of note in the pariſh of Goudhurſt, ſituate about a mile and a half from the town, and about the ſame diſtance from Lamberhurſt, (near the road between each place) alſo eight miles from Tunbridge Wells.

This manſion was inveſted in a family of the ſame name in the 40th year of the reign of Henry III. yet I cannot find that any of them was illuſtrious by any important undertaking, or famous by any eminent office.

—— Horden, of Horden, became the next proprietor of it by purchaſe, in the beginning of the reign of Henry VI. one of which family was Edward Horden, Eſq. who was Knight of the Green-cloth to Edward VI.—Queen Mary, & Queen Elizabeth—and to whom Hen. VIII. gave a grant to uſe the croſs bow; and alſo another to add a crown to his arms, both which

real

real grants are now in the poſſeſſion of the preſent proprietor of the eſtate, and worthy the ſight of the curious. Edward Horden, Eſq. dying without male iſſue, left his eſtate to be ſhared between two daughters and co-heirs: Elizabeth, married to Mr. Paul Bathurſt, and Finchcocks, by the abovementioned match, devolved to the poſſeſſion of Bathurſt, and is now the eſtate of this name and family.

In the year 1725, Edward Bathurſt, Eſq. built the noble ſtructure which is the preſent ſeat, near to the remains of the old one, which coſt upwards of 25,000l. at whoſe death it came into the hands of his eldeſt ſon, who enjoyed it a few years only, when it came to the next ſon, the Reverend Mr. Bathurſt, who is the preſent proprietor.

SCOTNEY.

About a mile and a half beyond Lamberhurſt, on the road leading to Rye, and about nine miles and a half from Tunbridge-Wells, is a caſtellated manſion, ſurrounded by a fine moat, and ſituated in the county of Suſſex. It borrowed the appellation from its local ſituation,

and

and over ſhooting of the water. It is ſuppoſed to have been built for a place of defence in the time of the Barons wars, and was the reſidence of a family diſtinguiſhed by that ſirname and denomination; for one Walter de Scotney, in times of high aſcent, was proprietor of this place, but added not much reputation to it; for, as Edmund de Hadenham, a chronologer of great antiquity aſſerts, he in 1259, adminiſtered poiſon by tacit ſtratagem, to the Earl of Glouceſter and his brother, to deſtroy them; of which the laſt died; and the firſt eſcaped not without danger of life. After this family was mouldered away at this place, which was about the middle of the reign of Edward III. the eminent family of Aſhburnham, of Aſhburnham in Suſſex, were entitled to the ſignory of it. Roger Aſhburnham, who was one of the Conſervators of the Peace for this County, in the 1ſt year of the reign of Richard II. did ſometimes inhabit at this place; and it was by his ſucceſſor ſold to Henry Chichley, Archbiſhop of Canterbury, who gave it as a dower to his niece, Florence Chichley, married to Joſeph Darrell, of Cale-hill; and he aſſigned it for the livelihood of his ſecond ſon, whoſe poſterity

have

have ſince enjoyed it till within theſe few years, when the manor ſeat, with a conſiderable part of the land, was purchaſed by Edward Huſſey, Eſq. a gentleman of conſiderable fortune, who is making very great improvements, that will render it a pretty appearance, whilſt he conforms to the antiquity of it. The beſt apartment of this houſe was added by Inigo Jones.

BEDGEBURY,

A ſeat about two miles from Goudhurſt, antiently belonging to, and for many years the chief reſidence of, a family of that name, who were of a very high aſcent in their extraction; for in a deed without date, one John de Bedgebury demiſes ſome parcels of land to William de Comden, of Comden-houſe in this pariſh; and the ſeal affixed to this deed is a cavalier on horſeback, armed, like one of the Knights Templars, which argues that he lived before the ſuppreſſion of that order, and aſſumed that impreſs out of his particular affection to them; or elſe, which was cuſtomary in theſe times, out of ſome ſignal and ſolemn vow, to maintain the Temple of our Saviour from the aſſaults and barbarous

barbarous impreſſions of infidels, which theſe perſons were by their oath, and firſt inſtitution, obliged vigorouſly to defend alſo.

John de Bedgebury, this man's ſucceſſor, paid reſpective aids for his lands at Goudhurſt, and likewiſe for his manor of Bedgebury, at making the Black Prince a Knight, in the 20th year of Edward III. and left his manor to his ſon, John de Bedgebury, who dying without iſſue, his ſiſter became his ſole inheritrix; and by marrying with Thomas Colepepper, Sheriff of Kent in the 18th of Richard II. brought the propriety of this place to the intereſt of that family, with whom it continued till the laſt century, when it paſſed into the hands of Sir James Hay. It was next purchaſed by Edward Stephenſon, Eſq. at whoſe death it fell into the hands of his brother, John Stephenſon, Eſq. who left it to his only ſon Edward, late deceaſed. The preſent houſe was built by Sir James Hay, at a ſmall diſtance from the old manſion; ſome remains of which are yet ſtanding, though diſtinguiſhed with nothing very particular to mark it for the reſidence of a perſon of diſtinction.

John

John and Joan of Bedgebury were buried in the church of Goudhurſt, and their effigies are cut out in full length, and placed in one of the windows there; and a dog cut out reſting at their feet, but no inſcription or date prefixed.

STONECROUCH.

Is an exceeding good inn, ſituate about one mile from Bedgebury, and three miles from Lamberhurſt, on the great road leading to Rye, Haſting, &c. It is likewiſe the centrical Poſt-Office, where the neighbouring branches, (extending even to the coaſt) all meet, and deliver their bags made up for, and take their reſpective ones ſent from, the *General Poſt-office, London*; which the Mail brings there on Wedneſdays, Fridays, and Sundays, and goes no farther, but returns on the ſame days. The rout of which is through Lamberhurſt, Tunbridge-Wells, Tunbridge, Sevenoaks, Bromley, Lewiſham to London.

About five miles from Stonecrouch, on the road to Rye is the neat and romantic village of

HAWKHURST.

Hawkhurſt is ſituated on a pleaſing eminence, commanding a fine proſpect of the

country about it, extending to the coaſt. The houſes are in general very neat, and many of them modern built, compaſſing altogether a large common. This place was granted by William the Conqueror, to the manor of Wye, which with all appendages, was to hold of the Abbey of Battle. The royalty and rents of Hawkhurſt upon the ſuppreſſion of the Abbey of Battle, was in the 33rd year of Henry VIII. granted to Sir John Baker, Attorney-general and Chancellor of the Exchequer to that Prince—King Edward VI.—and Queen Mary; but differences breaking out between the deſcendants of Sir John Baker, and the heir of Lord Hunſdon, (Lord of Wye) touching claims—to bury all future animoſities in amity and mutual compliance, Sir Henry Baker, in the 17th year of King James, conveyed it to Henry Cary, Lord Hunſdon, and Earl of Dover; who ſome years ſince paſſed it away to Sir Thomas Finch, father to Heneage, Earl of Winchelſea. It had a market antiently on Tueſdays, now ſhrunk into diſuſe, and a yearly fair which held three days; both procured by the Abbot of Battle, in the 5th year of Edward I.

Our

Our boundary extending no farther on this road, we next proceed to deſcribe the new Turnpike-road, leading from the Wells, to the Coaſt at Haſtings.

Paſſing through Frant, as before deſcribed, to the diſtance of ſix miles from Tunbridge-Wells, on a very pleaſant, though ſomewhat hilly road, brings you to the town of

WADHURST.

It is a ſmall town about ſix miles ſouth-eaſt of Tunbridge-Wells. The church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul; and the vicarage is in the patronage of Wadham College, Oxon. It is ſituated in the See of Chicheſter, but is a peculiar belonging to the juriſdiction of the Archbiſhop of Canterbury.

This place was once inhabited by a great number of Baptiſts, who, in the time of King Charles II. and his ſucceſſors of the Stuart race, were glad to fly to ſuch wild and ſolitary places, that they might, unnoticed, perform their religious duties according to the dictates of their own conſciences; but, ſince the acceſ-ceſſion of the preſent Royal Family, the Bap-

tiſts have there, as well as every where elſe in England, dwindled away almoſt to nothing, ſo true is the obſervation of Voltaire*, that "where religious differences are not fomented "by the intruſion of the civil magiſtrates, the "national church will, in time, ſwallow up "all the reſt."

Proceeding on through the town of Wadhurſt, brings you, at the diſtance of about four miles, (on a pleaſant and good Turnpike-road) to the village of

TICEHURST,

A ſmall, antient built village, in the county of Suſſex; in which there is nothing curious, or remarkable to entertain a ſtranger with, but the agreeable ride that it forms, from Tunbridge-Wells thither (being only ten miles) which has induced me to notice it in this edition; as well as to extend the boundary, and thereby take in many others, which were not mentioned in the former one, on account of the badneſs of the roads, which at that time, rendered their being come at, very difficult and unpleaſant.

At

* Voltaire's Hiſtory of the Quakers.

At the diſtance of about five miles from Ticehurſt, on the ſame Turnpike-road, (the latter two miles of which you deſcend quite to a valley) ſtands the town of

ROTHERSBRIDGE,

A ſmall antient looking place, although within theſe few years there have been ſome few neat houſes built, by gentlemen reſident in the neighbourhood; which for ſeveral miles around, is noted for its extenſive culture of a fine ſort of hops. It is a place of good trade, and a great thoroughfare; being ſituate on the main road leading from London to Battle, Haſtings, &c. This place takes its name from the river *Rother*.

The church, which ſtands a conſiderable diſtance from the town, is a large and regular ſtructure, with a lofty tower ſteeple built with ſtone; and has a pleaſing appearance from the town and neighbourhood.

About half a mile to the eaſt of the town, are the ruins of a priory and its chapel, of *Ciſtercian* Monks, founded by *Robert de St. Martin*, in the reign of *Henry* II. A. D. 1176.

It

It is now the property of Sir Godfrey Webſter, Bart. Near to the ruins is a large furnace, where are caſt cannon, for the navy and merchants uſe; and a ſmall diſtance from this, another furnace was built about twenty years ſince, by a Mr. Churchill, which he called an *Air-Furnace*: being conſtructed ſo as to work without bellows; and he uſed ſea-cole to melt the ore, inſtead of charcoal.

BURWASH.

The road to which branches off to the right about a mile from Wadhurſt, as before deſcribed, although that part of it is not good, but in ſummer time, when it affords a very rural and ſhady ride, intermingled with hills and dales; the latter two miles before you reach the town, forms one entire aſcent into it, being pleaſantly ſituated on an eminence, which commands every way an extenſive proſpect. The town is neat, and conſiſts of ſeveral modern built houſes.

Proceeding from hence, to the diſtance of four miles, you have a ride, diverſified with the moſt enchanting and extenſive proſpects that nature can well produce.

ROSE-

ROSE-HILL.

Late the ſeat of Roſe Fuller, Eſq. The houſe, which is antient and large, is ſituated on a fine hill, near a village called *Brightling*. It is ſurrounded with woods and downs in a beautiful variety: from it you have a moſt extenſive proſpect, commanding a fine view of the Suſſex coaſt, enriched by the continual motion of the veſſels, whoſe ſwelling canvas courts the riſing breeze, and delights the eye of the ſpectator.

On a clear day may alſo be diſcovered, the Cliffs of Dover; and with a glaſs, the oppoſite ones of France. The vales encompaſſing it, are adorned with woods, meadows, hop-grounds, corn-fields, towns and villages; ſo beautifully intermingled, as though art had conſpired with nature to make every thing appear grand and irregularly beautiful.—John Fuller, Eſq. the nephew and heir of the laſt proprietor, has made great improvements in the houſe and grounds.

ROTHERFIELD,

A ſmall town about ſix miles ſouth of Tunbridge Wells, ſituated in the wild of Suſſex, and

and of great eminence in point of ſituation, but of no importance. The roads all around it are much improved, and by the exertion of the inhabitants, will ſoon be in a very good ſtate. The pariſh is very extenſive, and the living, valued in the King's books at 27l. 12s. 6d. is in the gift of Lord Abergavenny.

The church is dedicated to St. Dennis; and has nothing in it remarkable except the arched cieling, which is made of cheſnut wood, in the gothic ſtile.

About the year 800, Berthwald, Duke of the South Saxons, founded a convent of monks at this place, ſubordinate to the Abbey of St. Dennis in France, of which there is not at preſent the leaſt remains.

MAYFIELD,

A ſmall town in Suſſex, about eight miles ſouth of Tunbridge-Wells; ſituated on the Turnpike-road, leading through Frant, to Eaſt-Bourne, on the coaſt of Suſſex.

The town is ſituated upon the top of a hill, and commands a fine proſpect of the South-Downs,



RUINS of the PALACE at MAYFIELD SUSSEX,

formerly the Residence of the Archbishops of Canterbury.

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Downs, betwixt East-bourne and Brighthelmſtone. The road from Frant thither is very hilly, and affords many pleaſant and different proſpects. In ſummer time it is rather ſandy, but firm and good.

The church is dedicated to St. Dunſtan, and the vicarage, though ſituated in the dioceſe of Chicheſter, is a peculiar ſubordinate to the juriſdiction of the metropolitan See of Canterbury.

The Archbiſhops of Canterbury had once a ſumptuous palace in this town, of which there ſtill are ſome very conſiderable remains; where are preſerved the tongs and anvil of St. Dunſtan, together with ſome other relicts of popiſh ſuperſtition.

The famous Sir Thomas Greſham purchaſed the Archbiſhop's Palace, which ſeems to have been his principal ſeat; as the furniture belonging to it was eſtimated at above 7550l. which was a prodigious ſum in that early age of commerce, and greatly ſuperior to the value of all his other houſes put together. One room in this houſe was called the Queen's Chamber,

but whether from being viſited by Q. Elizabeth, or not does not appear.

There are ſome good houſes in Mayfield, and as it is inhabited by ſeveral opulent families, who have hitherto retained ſo much of the ſober ſenſe of our anceſtors, as to expend the produce of their eſtates at home, it wears the pleaſing appearance of plenty.

CROWBOROUGH-HILL.

Is about ſeven miles ſouth-weſt of Tunbridge-Wells, over which runs the Turnpike road from Tunbridge Wells to Brighthelmſtone: at the top of the hill, on a clear day, is a fine opening towards Eaſt-Bourne, where the ocean is very diſcernable, and the ſailing of veſſels very eaſily diſtinguiſhed with the naked eye; from whence there is alſo an extenſive view of the wild of Suſſex, which has been, not unaptly, compared to a flat ſea lying beneath the hill, with here and there an houſe or a church, which, to carry on the ſimilitude, bear ſome reſemblance to ſhips on the ocean, while the hilly downs form a bold ſhore, at twenty miles diſtance on the other ſide.

On

On this wild common, ſome years ago, a neat chapel and ſchool was erected, by the judicious charity of Sir Henry Fermor, of Sevenoaks; who, by his laſt will, left the ſum of 1500l. for this purpoſe, and alſo a ſufficient fund to keep it in repair for ever, and to provide for the maintenance of a clergyman and a ſchoolmaſter, as well as for the cloathing and educating of forty poor boys and girls belonging to Rotherfiield and Buxted pariſhes. The children are to continue four years at this ſchool, and to be inſtructed in the important articles of reading, writing, and vulgar arithmetic.

The good effects of this noble charity are very conſpicuous in that wild country, whoſe inhabitants were more like ſavages than members of a civilized nation, till they had this opportunity of cultivation.

This chapel and ſchool houſe are built in a very elevated ſituation, and therefore eaſily ſeen from Tunbridge-Wells Common*.

* Sir Henry Fermor died the ſecond of June, 1734. The whole ſum he left to Crowborough was 9,000l. beſides which he left, in various other charities, ſo much as made the whole amount to more than 20,000l.

From the top of this hill, continuing the Turnpike-road to the diſtance of ſeven miles further, is the town of

U C K F I E L D,

A ſmall, though neat town, ſituate on the declivity of a gentle hill, in the neighbourhood of which are ſeveral gentlemen's ſeats; one of which is newly built, and belongs to George Medley, Eſq. called *Buxted Place*. Uckfield is reckoned the firſt ſtage from Tunbridge-Wells, and one of the ſtages from London to Brighthelmſtone; yet the place itſelf contains nothing worth recommending to the attention of the traveller, but a good inn, the Queen's Head, where he will find the beſt accommodations of every kind. There is another road leads from Tunbridge-Wells, through Groombridge and Maresfield to this place, which makes it the ſame diſtance, although not ſo pleaſant in its courſe, therefore loſes the preference.

W I T H Y H A M.

Is about ſeven miles weſt of Tunbridge-Wells, and is the antient eſtate and ſeat of the noble family

family of the Sackvilles. The pariſh church is the general burying-place of this very antient family, who have, for many generations back, been all interred here. The chapel in which they lie was rebuilt by Richard, Earl of Dorſet, who was himſelf buried in it, in 1624.

Among the epitaphs on the monuments of this noble family, there is the following, wrote by the celebrated Mr. Pope:—

On CHARLES, Earl of DORSET.

DORSET, the grace of courts, the muſes pride,
Patron of arts, and judge of nature, dy'd!
The ſcourge of pride, though ſanctify'd or great,
Of fops in learning, and of knaves in ſtate:
Yet ſoft his nature, though ſevere his lay,
His anger moral, and his wiſdom gay,
Bleſt ſatyriſt! who touch'd the mean ſo true,
As ſhew'd, vice had his hate and pity too.
Bleſt courtier! who cou'd king and country pleaſe,
Yet ſacred keep his friendſhips and his eaſe.
Bleſt peer! his great forefather's ev'ry grace
Reflecting and reflected in his race;
Where other Buckhurſts, other Dorſets ſhine,
And patriots ſtill, or poets, deck the line.

The

The manſion houſe is called

STONELAND,

It belongs to the Duke of Dorſet, of whom it is rented by Viſcount Lord Sackville.

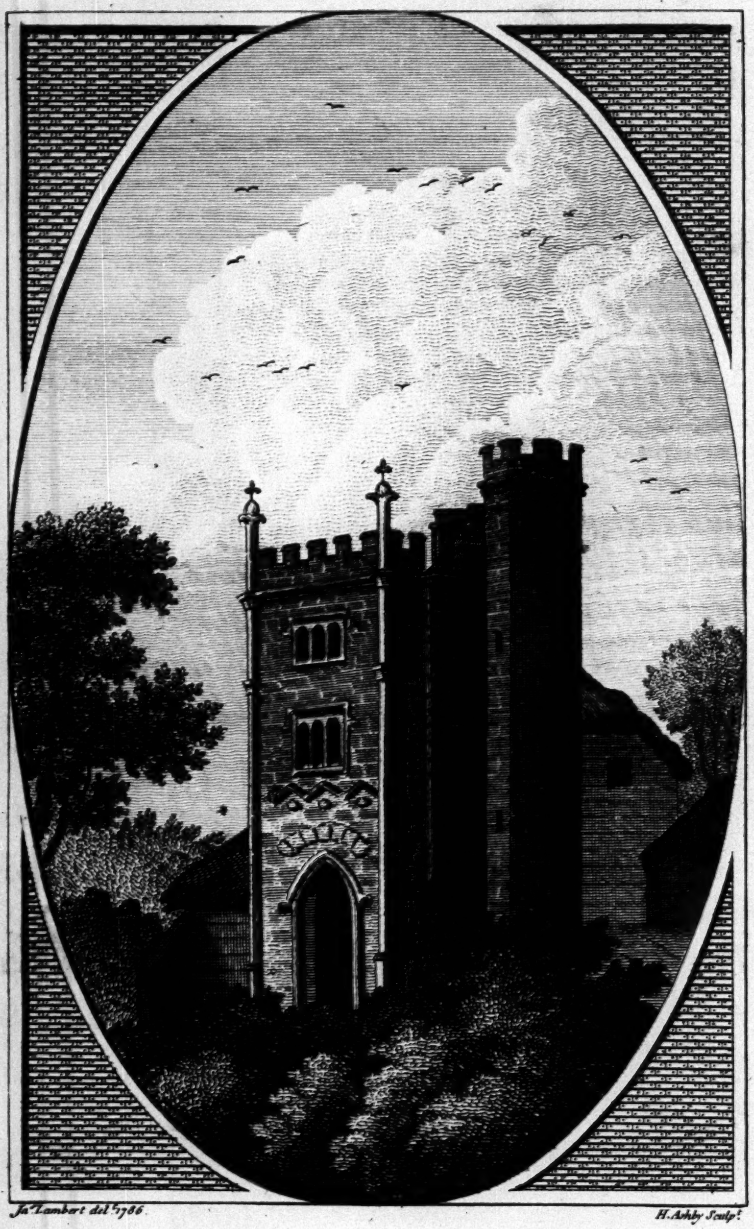
The building itſelf is ſmall, though compact and neat; ſurrounding which is an exceeding pleaſant, although not an extenſive park.

The road leading to it, is through Groombridge, and forms a very ſhady and pleaſant ride in ſummer time. The riding within the park, is extremely pleaſant, for which enjoyment, it is always kept open to admit ſtrangers.

The parſonage-houſe was rebuilt by the late incumbent, the Rev. Mr. Bale, in a very elegant manner. Its ſituation is rendered highly pleaſant, by a fine open proſpect in front, which is extended many miles over a well improved country.

The late curate of Withyham, a good-natured worthy man, opened a ſchool in this pariſh, which met with great encouragement from the ſurrounding farmers; and, as he was equally attentive

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Jn.° Lambert del.° 1786. H. Ashby Sculp.°

BUCKHERST, SUSSEX.

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attentive to the morals and learning of the children placed under his care, he thereby rendered himſelf extenſively uſeful to his country, and at the ſame time ſet an example which deſerves the imitation of other curates in different parts of the kingdom, who, after the ſucceſs he met with, though their pariſhes be ever ſo thin of inhabitants, need not deſpair of adding to their narrow ſtipends, if they would be as diligent to merit the eſteem and confidence of their pariſhioners.

BUCKHURST.

Is an antient manor in the pariſh of Withyham, which gives title of Earl to the Duke of Dorſet.

This was antiently the principal ſeat of the Sackvilles, to whom it devolved from Ralph de Dene, by his daughter and co-heireſs Ela, the wife of Jordan de Sackville, from whom this noble family is lineally deſcended.

This old manſion was a very large and ſtrong houſe, when inhabited by its noble proprietors; but, ſince the Earl of Dorſet obtained Knowle, in

in Kent, from the crown, has been ſo totally neglected, that it is now entirely gone to decay; though it is ſaid, its ruins are ſtill well worth the inſpection of the admirers of antient architecture; one tower in particular, which was one of the angular gateways, is ſtill ſtanding intire, and is an excellent piece of workmanſhip. Near it are the remains of the antient hall, now converted into a barn; in which the Manor Courts are always held to this time.

BOLEBROOK.

From Buckhurſt, at about two miles diſtance, is the remains of another antient ſeat, called Bolebrook, the property of Viſcount Lord Sackville, which is well worth the attention of the curious: It appears to have been a very large manſion, built of brick. That part of one of the angles now ſtanding, is made into a farm houſe; and the large gateway which is intire, is inhabited by a workman and his family.

It has two turrets in front, one of which being overgrown with ivy, gives it a venerable and pleaſing appearance from the lawn before it.

KIDBROOK,

KIDBROOK,

About nine miles weſt of Tunbridge-Wells, is the manſion houſe of the Right Honourable Lord Abergavenny.

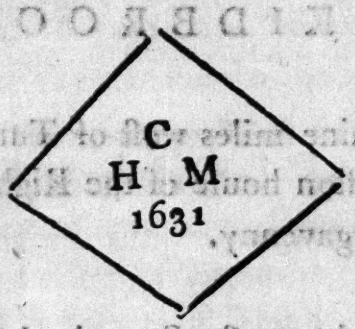
It is an elegant ſtructure, in the modern taſte, ſituated in a very wild and pleaſant country, which abounds with a conſiderable quantity of game of all kinds.

And near it are the remains of

BRAMBLETY,

An antient building, which was built by Sir Henry Compton, in the beginning of the laſt century; and though much of this edifice has been taken down of late years, to repair other buildings on the eſtate, enough ſtill remains to afford great entertainment to the curious traveller:—the Compton arms being over the front door, impaled with the Montagues; and high

above it, on another ſtone in form of a lozenge, are theſe letters and date:



it is now the property of —— Biddulph, Eſq. of Burton, in the county of Suſſex.

EAST-GRINSTEAD,

Is ſituated at the northern extremity of Suſſex, almoſt on the borders of Surry and Kent, and about thirteen miles from the Wells. It is an antient town, which came to the family of the Sackvilles about the time of Henry III.

Robert the ſecond Earl of Dorſet, in the reign of King James I. left by his laſt will, 1000l. to build a college in this town, for thirty-one poor unmarried perſons: namely, twenty-one men, and ten women; and his lordſhip endowed this hoſpital with 330l. per annum for their maintenance, and ordered it to be called,

as

as it now is, *Sackville College.* It is a ſtrong ſtone building, ſituated at one end of the town, and well contrived for the purpoſe.

The church is a large and well proportioned building, remarkably light and airy withinſide, and much admired for the ſimplicity and elegance of its porch and ſteeple.

The town itſelf is irregularly built, with only two or three tolerable houſes in it, the others being very mean; but, as it is the great thoroughfare to Lewes, it has a good trade, and the Crown is ſaid to be as good an inn as any in Suſſex.

This town is a borough by preſcription, and ſends two members to parliament, who are elected by about thirty-five burgage-holders, the returning officer being the bailiff, choſen by a jury at the Duke of Dorſet's Court-leet.

Henry II. granted a charter for a monthly market here; and the Lent Aſſizes are always held at Eaſt-Grinſtead, and the ſummer aſſizes at Lewes and Horſham alternately. It has four fairs in the year, and ſome of them are very

conſiderable for Welch runts, and all other cattle; which are brought here in great plenty, to ſupply the farmers of Kent, Suſſex, and Surry.

CLATFORD,

The ſeat of James Evelyn, Eſq. is ſaid to be an extreme good houſe: it is in the neighbourhood of this town on the Surry ſide; and travellers who are obliged to ſtop at Eaſt-Grinſtead for refreſhment, can ſcarce ſpend their time better than in ſurveying it. The ſituation of this houſe is very pleaſant, it being ſurrounded with meadows watered by running ſtreams, and having its neighbouring hills covered with wood, ſo as to make it a delightful ſummer retreat; but the badneſs of the roads all around it, except the turnpike, renders it a diſagreeable winter ſituation.

The PAPER MILLS.

Are ſituated on the river Medway, about four miles from Tunbridge-Wells, on the road leading to Penſhurſt, by Lankinton-green; and are the property of Mr. William Stidolph. The mills and appertenancies are large and commodious,

dious; and noted for making fine writing paper; but they are now more eſſentially employed in making cartridge-papers, to ſupply the Ordinance at the tower of London; which commiſſion, Mr. Stidolph has lately acquired thro' the intereſt of the Right Honourable Lord Viſcount Sackville.

The river, together with the dam, belonging to theſe mills, produces fine ſport in angling during the ſummer ſeaſon, which frequently induces the company to make a day's paſtime there, by leave of the good-natured owner; who is willing to render them every aſſiſtance, to make the ſport more agreeable and ſucceſsful.

PENN's ROCKS.

So called from the owner, Mr. Penn, and its ſituation, being ſurrounded with rocks; by which it has a very romantic appearance.

There is a very bad carriage road to it from the Wells, leading through Groombridge, about three miles from thence; there is alſo a pleaſant and nearer bridle road, over the foreſt by Eridge Green and Hamſel Furnace. The road either way,

way, as you approach the ſpot, is truly romantic and pictureſque; and the ſituation of the houſe beggars all deſcription.

It was originally built by one of the noted family of the Penns, who at that time reſided there, fenced in ſome grounds about it for a park, which was well ſtocked with deer, and laid out pleaſure grounds and neat gardens, &c. which on the whole, reudered it awfully grand.

It now belongs to Mr. Oſborne of Withyham, ſome of whoſe family reſides there, and although the park is chiefly converted into tilled land; and the grounds in the whole compoſe a good farm; yet the ſituation of the houſe, with ſome remains of the former ſtate of the gardens and ornamental trees ſtill left to view, makes it one of the deſirable and pleaſant airings from Tunbridge-Wells.

ANECDOTES.

IN the year 1746, ſeveral gentlemen talking of the ſalubrity of the air of Tunbridge Wells, and its environs, at Mrs. Evans, Coffee-houſe, the celebrated Beau Naſh, who was preſent, related the following anecdote:

That in the younger part of life, having by various diſſipations got into a very declining ſtate of health, and that after ſtruggling with it for ſome time, he applied to that well-known and ingenious phyſician, Dr. Pellett, then at Bath, who uſed to attend Tunbridge-Wells, who ſaid, "Naſh, you are really in a bad way, but as I know you have good ſtamina, attentively follow the advice that I ſhall give you, and I have not the leaſt doubt but you will recover;——you muſt immediately go down to Tunbridge-Wells,"—but before he could proceed any farther, Naſh cried out, "Damn it,

I cannot

I cannot drink the Tunbridge-Wells waters."—"Softly, Nash," says the Doctor, "I do not intend to prescribe them; but go down, and get into one of the little houses upon Mount Ephraim, and follow the regimen I shall mark out for you for a few weeks, and my life for yours, you will certainly recover. Mount Ephraim may be called the Montpelier of England.—Nash said, he pursued the Doctor's advice, and soon found the good effects of it, by the entire re-establishment of his health; and as he did not taste the water, attributed his recovery solely to the purity of the air.

About the year 1725, and to the year 1734, a fine, but very large woman, whose name was Bell Causey, was extremely well known in those days, for attending with her nymphs at the Ring in Hyde-Park, with oranges, nosegays, &c. as likewise for an expert conveyance of billet-doux, &c. and promoting friendship between persons of the highest rank. She presided as absolute governess at Tunbridge-Wells for the above period, and directed the company in all their pleasures and amusements, raised subscriptions for any persons in distress, was by

a set

a ſet of geniuſſes and gamblers allowed two guineas a day to conduct their rooms, then the only rooms for play, (except the groom porters) at that time in the Wells; to which, after chapel, ſhe conſtantly uſed to bring the company for raffles, or other amuſing purpoſes. And the celebrated Mrs. Chenevix, who about this time kept an elegant toy-ſhop for her father, the well-known and original Mr. Deard, or Bubble Boy, has been often heard to relate the aſtoniſhing influence this ſame Bell Cauſey had on the nobility and gentry, from her uſeful, affable, and generous behaviour, expending every ſhilling of her allowance in treating the company with jellies, oranges, biſcuits, &c. kept a plentiful table, and gave every day all that was left to the poor, by whom ſhe was adored. The perſon who furniſhed this anecdote of her, has himſelf heard Mrs. Chenevix ſay, that when any entertainment was wanted to amuſe the company, or any ſubſcription for a raffle, or a charity to be collected, it was Bell's conſtant cuſtom to place herſelf at the top of the ſteps leading to the Walks, and as the company came from chapel, with her apron ſpread in both hands, huſtle them as they do chickens, to any place, and for any purpoſe ſhe wanted them for,

and if ſhe eſpy'd any new comer of rank, ſhe immediately wiſhed them much joy of arriving ſo ſeaſonably, when there was an opportunity of their entertaining the company with a public breakfaſt, tea-drinking, &c. and ſo great was her influence at the Wells, that ſhe would not ſuffer the great *Beau Naſh* to have any power there while ſhe lived, and abſolutely kept him from the place till ſhe died; when he, the very next year attended, took the lead, and nobly and generouſly followed her example in promoting union, and every poſſible public entertainment for the company, at the noted Cold Bath on Ruſthall Common, the Fiſh-Ponds, in the Great Rooms, the Coffee-houſes, &c. &c. Scarce a day, and never a week together paſs'd, during his whole reign, without ſome of thoſe amuſements; and he always expreſſed his diſpleaſure at the company's breakfaſting at home, or any where but at the above places.—The civil and polite Mr. Caulet ſucceeded him, and followed his generous ſteps.

From or about the year 1735, to the death of Mr. Naſh, which was about 1756, the number of ſingular characters that frequented the Wells at the ſeaſon, was remarkable:—The firſt

of

of which was a little deformed mortal, called Lord Rawlins, the Wells Cryer, who gained his title by being taken to London by the famous Duke of Wharton, ridiculouſly but richly dreſs'd, and introduced by him into ſome of the firſt clubs in London. He was remarkable for ſinging the *Touting Song*, and ſpeaking ſome ſpeeches relating to the place, taught him by the Duke;—but he remained ſo proud after from this acquired title, that he went mad, and died ſo in the pariſh pariſh workhouſe.

Another very low but ſenſible character, was an odd ſhaped figure, a natural ſon of the great Sir Robert Walpole, who cleaned ſhoes and was called Sir Robert, ſaid a thouſand ſmart things to the company, and was reckoned more like Sir Robert than any of his children; as may be ſeen from a print which was taken of him about that time. Several generous attempts were made by the family to drag him from this way of life, but without effect. When the preſent Sir Edward Walpole viſited the Wells, this fellow often uſed to ſay to the company, *that he wondered his brother did not take more notice of him.*

There was likewiſe a tall meagre figure, a mad woman, called *Lady Tunbridge*, who was fantaſtically dreſſed, and was conſtantly walking and talking to herſelf when the company was upon the Walks, and not being any ways miſchievous, picked up a comfortable ſubſiſtence.

But the moſt ſingular characters were Mrs. Phips, called *Dame Fortune*, and Beggar Jack, called *Berwick Jack*, both well known and remembered, whoſe very poignant and ſenſible ſtrokes, at many diſtinguiſhed perſons, would, if they could be collected, afford no ſmall amuſement to the public; in ſhort, by their familiarity with the ſervants in families, and the ſecrets they got into by that means, they kept many haughty characters in ſuch awe, as to extort ſufficient for their ſupport.

About the year 1737, when every ſpecies of play, as Hazard, Pharoah, Ace of Hearts, &c. was encouraged, and which brought down ſhoals of gamblers of every denomination and ſtation, the following curious circumſtance happened.

A Jemmy

A Jemmy Gilbert (as he was called) who married the daughter of Mr. Vandernan, who altered, extended and kept the Great-Rooms, upon the Walks, and the well-known Lawrence Sidney, both of the black legg'd tribe, being at Chapel one Sunday, and ſetting together, Mr. *Okill*, a very ſingular character, then Clerk to the ſaid Chapel, kept a ſmall lodging houſe on Mount-Sion, and always gave out that pſalm which ſays *Mount Sion is a pleaſant place*, till he had let his houſe; and he as uſual giving out this pſalm, "Odds zounds," ſays Sidney, "poor *Okill* has not yet let his houſe," of which Gilbert ſeemed to take no notice, but hearing in the courſe of the week, that *Okill* had let his houſe, he went very familiarly to him, wiſhed him joy of it, aſked him to drink a glaſs, and told him how glad he was, and at the ſame time ſaid to him, "Maſter *Okill*, I wiſh you would oblige me by giving out the ſame pſalm you did laſt Sunday, as it is a favourite one of mine." To which *Okill* anſwered, "No, Sir; I never do that after I have let my houſe," but Gilbert ſlipping half-a-crown into his hand, and hoping he would oblige a friend, the other promiſed that he would. On which Gilbert, took care to ſeat himſelf cloſe

to

to Sidney the next Sunday, and when *Okill* gave out the uſual pſalm, Sidney exclaimed as before, but ſeemingly with more concern; when Gilbert told him, he heard that *Okill* had let his houſe, which Sidney ſaying he was ſure he had not, and Gilbert declaring, that he had heard it from a perſon he could poſitively depend on, and Sidney ſtill obſtinately inſiſting that he was very ſure he had not, Gilbert aſked him if he would bett any thing of it; to which the other ſaid that he would, and offered to lay him *ten guineas*.—Gilbert agreed, and the bet was thus made, won, and poſſitively paid.

About the year 1735, Mr. Naſh being informed that one of the inhabitants had, to oblige a family who had taken part of his houſe, procured a card table from London, went to the houſe under pretence of taking the other part, and deſiring to ſee that which was let, ſaw this card table, and immediately aſked the landlord which of the Rooms it belonged to, and if the perſon it was for, was ſo ill as not to be capable of attending the Rooms? To which he anſwered, "That he had bought the table for the uſe of his lodgers, who were very well, but did not chuſe to go to the *Public Rooms*."——

"Why,"

"Why," ſays Naſh, "what a puppy you muſt be, not to know, that the principal ſupport of the Wells, your houſes, and every beneficial circumſtance attending the place, depends entirely on the company's frequenting the rooms, and when once that ceaſes, be aſſured the Wells will drop." Ordered him to put the table by, or he ſhould command it to be broken; and report ſays, he abſolutely put his threats in execution.

One very ſingular and extraordinary character was an old gentleman named Dunmall, who was an inhabitant, lived in, and owned the houſe now Mr. King's on the Wells Common, a very handſome but profligate man, with a head of hair as white as ſnow; and was called the *Prophet*, declaring that he had been in the world ever ſince the creation, and that he ſhould never die; and poſitively aſſerted, that he was directed in every affair of conſequence by the Angel Gabriel, from whom he conſtantly received orders, ſome of them the moſt extravagant and whimſical that can poſſibly be imagined.—He abſolutely aſſerted to the famous Lord Cheſterfield, who was aſking him, "From the long time he had been in the world, if he remembered

membered or knew any thing of Jonas being in the whale's belly."—" Yes, my Lord, very well: for I was with him, and a dark place it was; and between ourſelves, for a prophet, Jonas was a great coward, &c.

This gentleman was a convincing proof of the great power and effect of the mineral waters of this place; and that they are not to be trifled with, we may learn from the following very ſingular anecdote;

One morning about eleven o'clock Mr. Dunmall went down to the Suſſex Tavern on horſeback, then kept by the well-known Jack Todd, (the perſon who firſt built the Suſſex Great-Rooms) and calling for him, " Jack," ſays he, " I have received an order from the Angel Gabriel, to drink eighteen gills of white wine before I get off my horſe,"— and poſitively, as Todd has often declared, did ſo—rode very quietly away, and appeared upon the Walks as uſual, in a day or two, perfectly well. But in a few days after, he went on horſeback, to the back of the Water-dippers Hall, and ſaid, " He had received an order from his Angel Gabriel to drink eighteen glaſſes of the Well water without

without getting off his horſe," which he likewiſe did, and went home as before, but it threw him into ſo violent a fever, that he was not able to ſtir out, or appear on the Walks for more than three weeks after.

Another of his whimſical orders was, that one day meeting a pedlar on the road, and aſking him his name, which the man telling him, Mr. Dunmall ſaid to him, "Are you ſure that is your real name?" To which the other anſwering in the affirmative,—"Why then," ſays he, "I have an order from the Angel Gabriel to give you ten guineas;"—"Have ye?" ſays the pedlar, "and the ſame Angel has bleſs'd me with an order to receive it."—On which Dunmall immediately gave him the money.

Another odd diminutive figure, but a moſt ſenſible, honeſt, and ingenious man, at this time, was the little Mr. Logan, the Fan Painter, who for ſome years kept ſhop at the extreme end of the Walks; from whence he could ſee the whole company, and conſtantly delineated any particular character among them in his Fans, ſo as to be immediately known by their

ſorms, which he introduced in his views of the Walks, the Cold-bath, the Fiſh-ponds, &c. and for which he had conſtant employ; but his character, good ſenſe, jokes, and ſmart repartees, are better remembered at the Hot-Wells at Briſtol, where he lived till within theſe few years, and died much reſpected. He was original dwarf to the Prince and Princeſs of Wales.

But among all theſe characters it would be unpardonable to forget the memorable Mrs. Sarah Porter, ſo well known to all the nobility and gentry reſorting to the Wells, till within the year 1762, and truly called the *Queen of the Touters*, as no one ever carried the ſpecies of begging or ſoliciting your pecuniary aſſiſtance ſo high as ſhe did. When *Naſh* came firſt down to the Ball-Room, which was at the Bowling-Green, on Mount-Sion, till about the year 1739, he brought this ſtrange ſingular character to his Rooms on the Walks, to ſolicit the ſubſcriptions for him, and there was not a perſon of the leaſt rank or credit that ſhe let eſcape; ſhe pretended to know the fathers, mothers, uncles, aunts, and every relation of any perſons of diſtinction; had a ſhrewd memory, and could recollect or forget whatever was for her

her intereſt; uſed to ſtand at the Ball-Room door, and make ſome thouſand curtſeys in a day; had not the leaſt faith, or inclination to truſt; and if any individual did not immediately ſubſcribe to her, ſhe would take her book, pen and ink in her hand, and follow them all round the room when it was full of company, which made many of them often very angry; but rating, ſwearing at her, or any other ſevere method, was never known to put her out of humour, or make her uncivil to the company.

The young folks would often teize her by calling to her, and letting her know, there were two or three gentlemen, who they believed to be foreigners, had ſlipt by her up the Walks; when ſhe would be in the utmoſt anxiety, and when they ſaid to her, "What are you ſo uneaſy for, they'll ſoon be back again." She would anſwer, "I don't know that, for I have known more than one drop down dead before returning, and many that have ſlipt quit away."

She valued herſelf much on her intrepidity, and not giving up in any matter; and an ingenious, droll, American parſon, who made him-

ſelf very familiar with her, in aſking her ſome of the anecdotes of her life, got many laughable and ſingular ſecrets from her; one of which was, "The value ſhe had for herſelf, from being deſcended in a direct line from the Engliſh women in the time of the Danes, who cut all their huſbands throats the firſt night of their marriage." A print of this ſtrange perſon was made, after a fine picture of Vandermiſſon's, and is to be ſeen on the Walks; and though very ſcarce, what remains are to be had of Mr. *Sprange*, the publiſher of this hiſtory.

BRITISH 23MY73 MUSEUM

A LIST

A LIST OF THE LODGING HOUSES, THEIR SITUATION, NAMES of the OWNERS, and principal ROOMS in each.

	Parlours	Chambers	Stables for
On BISHOP'S DOWN.			
MRS. Shorey, *late Lady Buchan* †	3	5	7
Ditto, *late Doble's* —	4	4	12
Ditto, *her White House* — —	2	4	4
On MOUNT EPHRAIM.			
Mrs. Johnson, *late Field's*,	3	6	6
Mr. Weller, *Stone House* — †	3	8	7
Mrs. Sheppard, — †	4	3	18

		P.	C.	S.
Mrs. Scifely — —		2	4	4
Mr. Sawyer, *adjoining Morley's*		2	2	6
— C. Stapley, *upper Houſe*	†	4	5	14
— Thomas Jarrett —	* †	5	7	16
Mrs. Hayward, *Culverden Gate*		1	2	0
Lady Huntingdon, *Culverden-row*	†	4	5	15
Mrs. Richardſon, *ditto* —		2	3	0
Mr. Calverly, *Culverden-row*		3	4	10
— George Weller, *ditto*	†	3	6	10

On the Side of MOUNT EPHRAIM, *London Road.*

Mr. Marſdin's, *New Houſe, ditto*		2	4	0
— Cranwell's, *ditto* — —		1	5	0
— D. Latter, *on London Road*	†	3	5	9
— Marſdin, *late Lane's, on ditto*	†	4	4	6
— King's — — —		4	4	6
— Seamer's — —	†	3	5	6
— Jeffery's, *at the Gate* —	†	2	4	6
— C. Stapley's *lower Houſe*	†	4	6	12
Dr. Lamont, *Holly Buſh* —		3	4	6
Mr. R. Skinner, *near Cold-bath*	†	4	5	10
— Skinner's *New Houſe* —		2	4	8

On MOUNT PLEASANT.

Mrs. Marſdin, *late Willett's* —	†	3	5	6
— Gratton — —	†	5	8	30

On MOUNT SION.

	P.	C.	S.
Mr. Watſon, *further Grove-houſe*	4	5	10
— George Fry, *middle ditto* —	4	8	12
— George Fry, *hither ditto* —	4	5	8
— Quinell, *late Rich. Delves* *	4	12	20
— Mitchell, *late Walker's* —	2	3	0
— E. Strange, *green pales* *	5	9	0
— Pope, *bow windows, green pales*	2	3	0
— Parman, *late Newnham's*	4	5	7
— Parman, *late Widow Fry's*	4	5	0

On the Top of Mount-Sion, *near the* Bowling-Green *and* Great Grove.

Mr. Joſeph Delves —	3	5	17
— Richard Jeffery, *late S. Jeffery*	5	4	12
— Richard Delves, *home houſe*	3	12	10
— Willett — —	3	4	6
— Richard Delves, *late Aſhe's*	3	14	10
— Richard Fry — —	4	5	7
— Doyle, *upper houſe* —	2	6	5
— Thomas Wood's — —	4	7	12
Miſs Wood's *two houſes adjoining, each containing* - - -	3	6	8
Mr. Powell, *late Johnſton's* —	2	4	4
Mr. John Fry — —	2	5	0

On Mount-Sion, *fronting* Mount-Ephraim.

		P.	C.	S.
Mr. E. Mercer, *late Seal's*	—	3	6	7
— E. Mercer's *ſmall houſe, late ditto*		2	5	6

At the Foot of MOUNT-SION.

Mr. Downard, *oppoſite Grove-houſe*		3	3	4
— Phillpot	— —	2	3	6
— Doyle, *lower houſe*	—	2	5	20
— Richard Stapley	— —	3	5	0
— Richard Stapley, *new houſe*		1	3	0
— Robert Skinner, *New Street*	*	4	4	8
— Jonathan Auſten, *late Cripp's*		1	2	0
— Jacob Lewis	— —	2	2	0
— Edward Strange	—	3	4	0
— Leonard Scotchburn	—	3	5	0
— Dunage	— —	3	5	8
— Mitchell, *late White's*	—	4	4	0
— Gratton, *Great Houſe*	*	10	10	11
— Gratton, *Little Grove-houſe*		2	3	4
— Gratton, *Second Apartment to ditto*		1	2	0

Near the WALKS.

Mr. W. Camfield, *Chapel-yard*	*	4	10	20
Mrs. Hodges, *a Boarding-houſe, called* Chapel-Houſe	*	7	8	0

On the WALKS.

		P.	C.	S.
Mr. W. Friend, Sen. *lower houſe*	*	3	5	0
— Ditto, *flat houſe* —	*	2	6	0

Oppoſite the WALKS.

Mrs. Kipping, *late Gloceſter-tavern*	*	2	4	6
Mr. Robert Cripps —		4	6	0
— Robinſon, *late Morris*	* †	2	3	0
— Ditto, *Small end adjoining*	* †	2	2	0
— Fry, *Cabinet-maker* —		1	3	2
— Cheeſmen, *largeſt apartment*		2	5	0
— Cheeſman, *ſmall ditto, adjoining*		2	3	0
— Sprange, *late Widow Mercer's*		1	5	3
Mrs. Baker, — —		2	6	0
Mr. Goldſtone, *great apartment*		2	5	7
— Goldſtone, *ſmaller adjoining*		2	4	7

Adjoining the upper End of the WALK.

Mr. Goldſtone, *round-about houſe*		1	2	4

Near the upper End of the WALK.

Mr. Bennett, *late Newnham's*	†	2	3	6

B. N. Thoſe marked thus*, are frequently divided into ſmall apartments.

Thoſe marked thus †, have garden and other ground belonging.

Thoſe houſes that have ſtabling belonging, have likewiſe coach-houſes in proportion; and every houſe contains garrets, kitchens, and under-offices in proportion to the other rooms.

The Going-out and Coming-in OF THE STAGE COACHES, WAGGONS and POST.

PARMAN's STAGE-COACH to LONDON,

SETS out from *Tunbridge-Wells*, every Morning at SIX o'Clock, (Sundays excepted) through Tunbridge, Sevenoaks, Farnborough, Bromley, and Lewisham; and arrives at the *Golden-Cross* Inn, *Charing-cross*, *London*, about TWO in the Afternoon; and sets out from thence at SIX every Morning. The Fare to *Tunbridge-Wells* is 9s. Each Passenger is allowed 14lb. of Luggage; all above to be paid for at 1d. per lb. and so in Proportion for Passengers and Luggage to any Part of the Road. Out-side Passengers and Children in Lap, Half-Price.

Cheeſman's London Waggon,

Sets out from Tunbridge-Wells, during the Summer Seaſon, every Monday and Thurſday Morning, about EIGHT o'Clock; and arrives at the Queen's-Head Inn, in the Borough of Southwark, every Tueſday and Friday about EIGHT o'Clock in the Morning; returns from thence on the ſame Evenings, and arrives at Tunbridge-Wells, Thurſdays and Saturdays. Carries Goods at per Hundred Weight; and Parcels book'd at the Inn in Southwark, and at his Warehouſe Tunbridge-Wells.

Chapman and *Bennett*,
(Late Camfield's) London Waggon,

Sets out from Tunbridge-Wells, during the Summer Seaſon, every Monday and Thurſday Morning, about EIGHT o'Clock; and arrives at the Nag's-Head Inn, in the Borough of Southwark, every Tueſday and Friday, about EIGHT o'Clock in the Morning; returns from thence the ſame Evenings, and arrives at Tunbridge-Wells, Thurſdays and Saturdays. Carries Goods at per Hundred Weight; and Parcels book'd at the above Inn, and at Mr. *Bennett's*, the Duke of York, Tunbridge-Wells.

The MAIL

Arrives every Morning from London about ELEVEN o'Clock, (Mondays excepted) and goes out every Evening at Six o'Clock, except Saturdays. The Poſtage of a Single Letter to, or from London, is *Four-pence.*

N. B. All *Foreign,* or *Croſs-poſt* Letters, are to be given to the Perſon belonging to the Office, and not put in the Box, with the Letters for London; as bags are made up, and accounts kept reſpectively.

Letters for any Part of England, muſt paſs through London, except to thoſe Places which are mentioned under, and are in the Delivery of

The CROSS-POST,

Which ſets out every *Wedneſday, Friday,* and *Sunday* Morning, immediately after the Mail's Arrival from London, for, and arrives at the following Places the ſame Evenings, *viz.*

Aſhburnham

Aſhburnham
Appledore
Beckley
Bodiam
Brightling
Burwaſh
Beauport
Boreham
Breede
Broomham
Bexhill
Benenden
Battle
Bidenden
Brenchley
Catsfield
Crowhurſt
Cranbrook
Couſley Wood
Dallington
Ewhurſt
Ebony
Etchingham
Flimwell
Fairlight
Frittenden
Fair Crouch
Goudhurſt
Gardiner-Street
Gertling
Glaſtenbury
Goford-Green
Guildford
Hartley
Hawhurſt
Heathfield
Hornſhurſt
Hurſtmonceux
Hollington
Highalden
Hoon-place
Headcorn
Haſtings
Horſmonden
Ickleſham
Iden
Kennorton
Leigh-Green
Milkhouſe Street
Munfield
Matfield-Green
Newenden
Northiam
Nenfield

Ore	Smarden
Penhurſt	Sprivers
Pett	Scotney
Peaſmarſh	Ticehurſt
Playden	Tenterden
Roſehill	Udimore
Rotherſbridge	Vinehall
Rolvenden	Warbleton
Sandhurſt	Wartlington
Scotney	Wartling
Salehurſt	Weſtfield
Seddleſcomb	Wilſley
St. Mary of Caſtle	Wareham
St. Leonards	Winchelſea
Siſingherſt	Witterſham
Staplehurſt	Wadhurſt
Sidley-Green	Woodchurch
Stone	

*** A Bye-bag is made up the ſame Evenings for *Tunbridge*, *Sevenoaks*, and *Bromley*: Letters for which Places, and the Villages in their Neighbourhood, are within the *Croſs-Poſt* Delivery, therefore will be delivered without firſt going to London, or paying otherwiſe than for Bye or Croſs-Poſt Letters.

USEFUL ROADS

LEADING FROM

TUNBRIDGE-WELLS,

DESCRIBED.

DIFFERENT ROADS TO LONDON.

The direct Poſt-Road.

TO	Miles		Miles
TUNBRIDGE	6	Bromley —	4
Sevenoaks —	7	London —	10
Farnborough - -	9	Total	36

Another Road to LONDON.

Tunbridge —	5	Chiſlehurſt -	6
Mereworth —	8	Eltham —	3
Wrotham —	7	New-Croſs —	2
Cray — —	7	London —	2
		Total	40

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A TABLE of more tha

Whereby the Number of Miles for any intended Tour, of the County may readil

DISTANCES (*in measured miles*) *between the principal Towns in* KENT, *the Market Days, and distance from London.*		London	Tunbr. Wells	Ramsgate	Deal	Wye	Wrotham	Woolwich	Westerham	Tunbridge	Town Malling	Tenterden	Smarden	Sheerness	Sevenoke	Sandwich	Romney	Queenborough	Milton	Margate
Canterbury	W S	56	46	16	16	12	38	50	49	41	33	27	26	29	45	12	26	25	17	16
Rocheſter	Fr	30	28	42	42	29	16	24	27	23	11	29	29	22	22	38	44	18	10	42
Maidſtone	Th	35	19	43	43	24	11	33	22	14	6	20	20	22	19	39	35	18	10	43
Aſhford	S	55	39	31	31	4	31	51	42	34	26	12	11	33	39	27	22	29	21	31
Bromley	Th	10	25	69	69	53	18	9	13	20	23	49	49	51	14	65	64	47	39	72
Chatham	S	31	29	41	41	28	17	25	28	24	11	30	30	21	23	37	45	17	9	41
Cranbrooke	S	49	18	50	50	23	24	42	33	20	19	7	9	35	26	46	22	31	23	50
Dartford	S	15	25	57	57	44	13	9	18	20	18	46	46	37	14	53	61	33	25	52
Dover	W S	72	60	20	8	25	55	66	66	57	49	35	35	45	62	13	20	41	33	22
Faverſham	W S	47	37	25	25	12	29	41	40	32	24	25	18	20	37	21	41	16	8	2
Folkſtone	Th	72	54	27	15	18	48	66	59	51	43	32	40	50	56	20	13	46	38	29
Goudhurſt	W	44	14	55	55	28	20	42	28	15	17	12	12	35	21	51	27	31	23	5
Graveſend	W S	22	32	50	50	38	20	16	25	27	19	36	36	30	21	46	51	26	18	50
Greenwich	W S	5	33	68	68	55	22	5	21	28	27	52	52	48	22	64	68	44	36	61
Hythe	S	68	49	31	19	14	44	65	55	47	39	23	24	46	42	24	9	42	34	3
Lenham	Fr	48	30	42	42	15	22	44	33	25	17	28	11	31	30	38	33	27	19	47
Lyd	Th	72	43	43	31	26	49	67	58	45	44	18	26	50	51	36	3	56	48	4
Margate	W S	72	62	5	14	28	54	66	65	57	49	43	42	45	61	9	42	41	33	
Milton	S	40	29	33	33	20	21	34	32	24	16	30	30	12	29	29	45	8		
Queenboro'	M Th	48	37	41	41	28	29	42	40	32	24	38	38	4	37	37	53			
Romney	Th	71	40	40	28	23	46	64	55	42	41	15	23	57	48	33				
Sandwich	W S	68	58	7	5	24	50	62	61	53	45	39	38	41	57					
Sevenoke	S	23	11	62	62	43	9	23	6	6	13	32	34	41						
Sheerneſs	S	52	41	45	45	32	33	44	46	36	28	42	42							
Smarden	Fr	56	26	42	42	15	31	53	42	29	26	9								
Tenterden	Fr	56	25	43	43	16	31	49	40	27	26									
Town Malling	S	30	19	49	49	30	5	23	16	14										
Tunbridge	Fr	30	5	57	57	38	14	29	12											
Weſterham	W	22	17	65	65	46	12	22												
Woolwich	Fr	10	34	66	66	53	22													
Wrotham	Tu	24	19	56	56	35														
Wye	Th	59	43	28	28															
Deal		72	62	12																
Ramſgate	W S	72	62																	
Tunbridge Wells		35																		

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But ſhould the Traveller
tous journey along the ſe
wich, Deal, Dover, Folkſto
in his way, the diſtance be
be taken from the Table a
the annexed example. In
number of miles is aſcert
the journey be either in a
intricate by croſſing from

nore than 600 Distances;
l Tour, from TUNBRIDGE WELLS, or any other Part
ay readily be ascertained.

TABLE of DISTANCES FOR THE TUNBRIDGE-WELLS GUIDE.

Romney	Queenborough	Milton	Margate	Lyd	Lenham	Hythe	Greenwich	Gravesend	Goudhurst	Folkstone	Faversham	Dover	Dartford	Cranbrooke	Chatham	Bromley	Ashford	Maidstone	Rochester
26	25	17	16	29	20	17	52	34	39	16	9	16	41	34	25	53	15	27	26
44	18	10	42	47	18	40	26	8	21	44	17	42	15	22	1	27	27	9	
35	18	10	43	38	11	33	35	16	13	37	18	43	24	13	10	29	20		
22	29	21	31	25	11	13	53	34	24	13	17	24	42	19	28	49			
64	47	39	72	67	40	62	8	19	34	66	45	70	12	39	28				
45	17	9	41	48	19	41	27	9	22	45	16	41	16	23					
22	31	23	50	25	17	32	46	29	5	36	26	43	37						
61	33	25	57	64	37	58	11	7	38	57	32	57							
20	41	33	22	23	35	11	68	50	47	7	25								
41	16	8	25	44	11	26	43	25	37	26									
13	46	38	29	16	28	4	70	50	44										
27	31	23	55	30	20	37	48	29											
51	26	18	50	54	25	47	18												
58	44	36	68	71	44	65													
9	42	34	33	12	24														
33	27	19	42	36															
3	56	48	45																
42	41	33																	
45	8																		
53																			

Note. Canterbury and Rochester are cities, and Maidstone the county town, at which the assizes are mostly held, here also the county courts are kept, and the public business for the western division of Kent transacted, as that for the eastern division is at Canterbury.

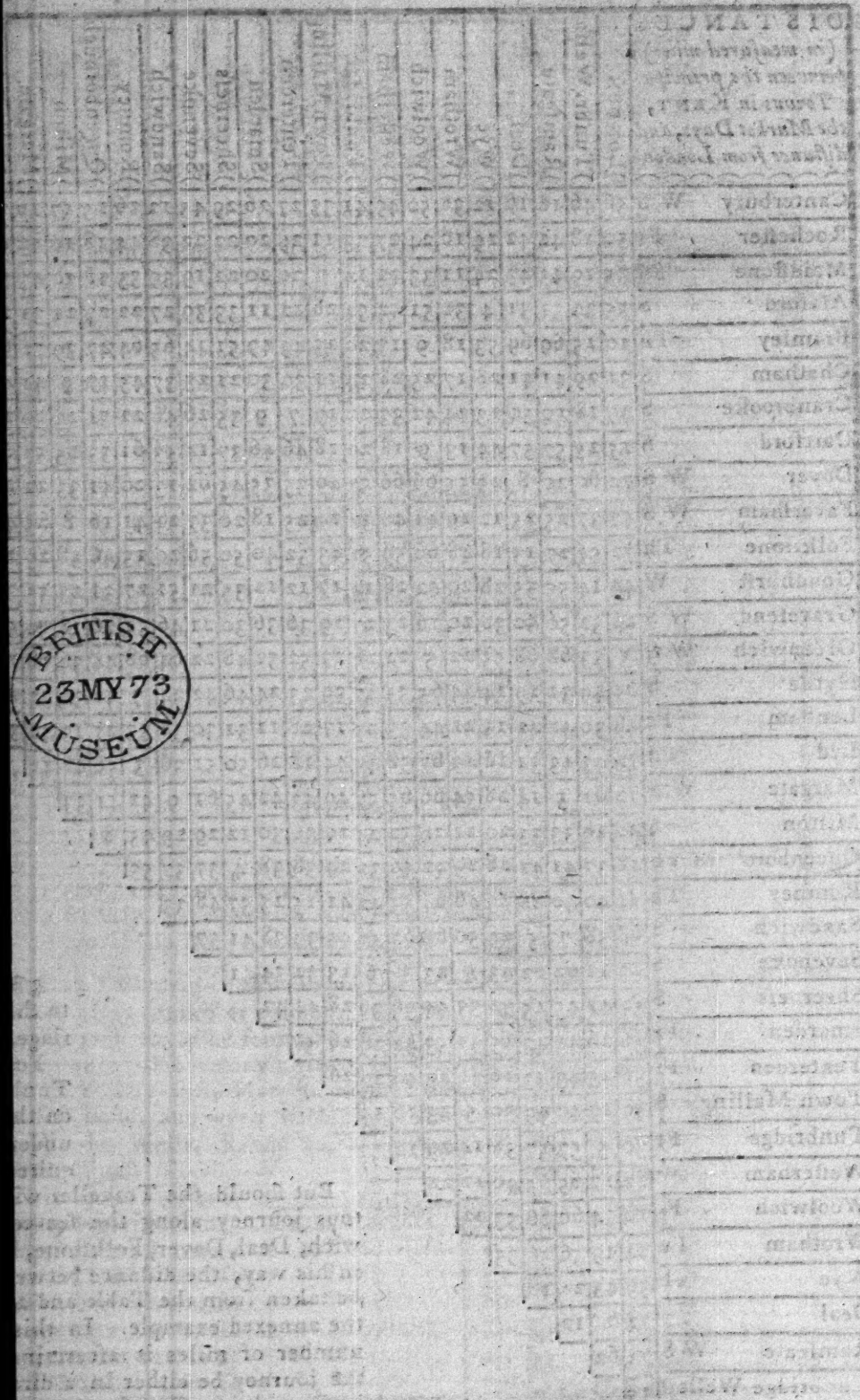
Deal and Tunbridge Wells, though very considerable towns, have no markets weekly, but are plentifully supplied with provisions from the adjacent parts.

☞ THE Distances in this Table are according to the nearest turnpike or passable Road for a carriage, and may easily be found by inspection only.

For instance;–How many miles from Margate to Tunbridge Wells?–Find Margate amongst the towns on the left hand, and even with it on the right, under Tunbr. Wells, stands 62, the distance required.

Traveller wish to make a circuig the sea-coast, and visit Sand-, Folkstone, Hythe, and Romney stance between each may readily Table and added together, as in ple. In this manner the exact is ascertained, let the course of her in a direct line, or ever so g from one town to another.

From Margate	*Miles*	
to Sandwich	9	9
– Deal	5	14
– Dover	8	22
– Folkstone	7	29
– Hythe	4	33
– Romney	9	42
– Tun. Wells	40	82



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